Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Which of the Interior Department recommendations for long-term foreign workers in the CNMI do you support?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Travel Upswing

Delta is upbeat about its business in Japan as new routes and the surging yen boost travel.

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Code Talkers

Before hundreds of Code Talkers were recruited to join the unit, 29 Navajos were recruited to develop the code.

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Quick Release

Las Vegas police are defending Paris Hilton's quick release from jail.

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OPA launches probe on AG

Kilili committee: AG recusal from election 'insufficient'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor is now investigating the substance of the complaints lodged against Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham and the Office of the Attorney General for hosting a campaign gathering for delegate candidate Joseph N. Camacho of the ruling Covenant Party.

Buckingham

Public Auditor Michael Pai, in a letter on Friday to Buckingham, also notified the attorney general about OPA's receipt of several requests for investigation concerning him

See OPA on Page 4

Classroom shortage plagues school opening

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Some school administrators were greeted by a shortage of classrooms when classes in public schools started yesterday, the increased number of enrollees resulting in high students-to-teacher ratios.

At Saipan Southern High School, for instance, the initial enrollment cap of 850 students was adjusted to 910 after considering the request of parents who wanted to have their children in one public school.

The school's students-to-teacher ratio increased to 35:1, specifically in English classes, according to Saipan Southern acting principal Jesse M. Tudela.

He said the school's 32 classrooms

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A father fetches his daughter at Garapan Elementary School after the first day of school among public schools in the CNMI yesterday. The Public School System says there have been overcrowding in some schools because of lack of classrooms and teachers.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Paychecks could be out Wednesday next week

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that government employees who won't be receiving their paychecks on Friday may get their paper checks as early as Wednesday.

But that, again, is not guaranteed, depending on the availability of cash, he said.

Inos, who oversees government financial matters and is a former Finance secretary, said the central government has so

See PAYCHECKS on Page 4

Fitial to lawmakers: Work together on budget, revenue bills

House, Senate prep for conference committee

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial called for a meeting with leaders of the Legislature yesterday, urging the Senate and the House of Representatives to work together to pass a balanced budget before the start of fiscal year 2011 on Oct. 1 or the government will shut down.

Fitial's hastily called meeting came after the Senate passed on Friday a budget bill containing major changes that the House leadership objects to.

Although both chambers' budget bills topped out at $132 million budget, the House and Senate leaderships traded accu-

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GOP's Michael Steele to publicly endorse Babauta tonight. PAGE 2

CPA nixes Tinian Dynasty's proposal to write off arrears. PAGE 7

Local

GOP's Michael Steele to publicly endorse Babauta tonight

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Residents will have the chance to see and listen to Republican National Committee chair Michael Steele when he publicly endorses tonight the candidacy of former governor Juan N. Babauta as CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives.

This is the first time a chairman of the Republican National Committee or Steele to visit the CNMI.

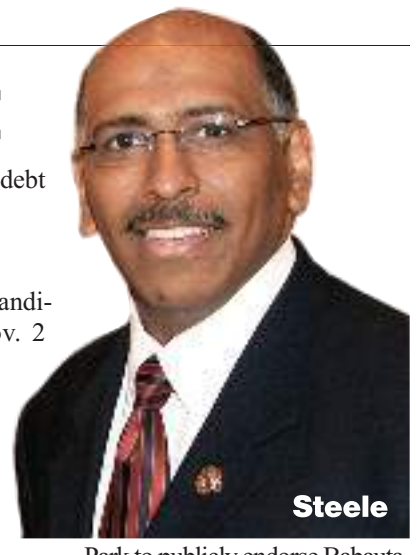
Steele was in Guam yesterday to also meet with Republicans, days after a party primary.

Babauta, who celebrated his 57th birthday yesterday, said Steele's endorsement of his candidacy is in line with the "mood" in the U.S. to have a Republican-dominated Congress.

"So he wants a Republican delegate to work with a Republican Congress," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune.*

Steele is mired in controversies as chairman of the Republican National Committee, but Babauta, when asked for comment, said it was not Steele himself who has been in question but his staff.

Just the same, some members of the community have mixed feelings toward Steele's visit to the CNMI, citing negative reports about him, including spending Republican funds on a bondage-themed nightclub, his suggestion that the war in Afghanistan could not be won, and that under his chairmanship of the national GOP, the party incurred a debt of almost $7 million.


Steele

Fundraiser

Babauta is one of four candidates running in the Nov. 2 election for delegate.

The other three are incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, former lieutenant governor Jesse Borja of the Democratic Party, and former House floor leader Joseph Camacho of the Covenant Party.

Steele is expected to arrive from Guam at 6pm.

Babauta said he would personally welcome Steele upon arrival at the airport.

Around 6:30pm, Steele would be at Babauta's residence in Garapan for a "meet and greet," part of his post-birthday fundraiser. The ticket is $100 per person for this event.

Around 7:30pm, Steele would be going to the Garapan Central Park to publicly endorse Babauta. The ticket for this event is $10.

Babauta said even non-Republicans are invited to his fundraiser.

He said he met with Steele in Washington, D.C. in July, and that's when Babauta invited him to come to the CNMI.

Steele took the RNC chairmanship in January 2009 after a turbulent race against incumbent Mike Duncan. Steele is the first African-American to become RNC chair. He is a former Maryland lieutenant governor.

Man fights brother who stops him from hanging self on a mango tree

Thwarted in an alleged attempt to hang himself from a mango tree, a 22-year-old Koblerville man fought with his brother and threatened his mother, resulting in police being called in to pacify the suspect.

Semmy S. Borja was arrested for disturbing the peace. Bail was set at $100 cash and $900 unsecured bond.

Detective Patrick Sablan stated in his report that police officers had responded to Koblerville Thursday afternoon after receiving a call about a disturbance.

Sablan said that Borja's mother told police he had tried to hang himself from a mango tree but his brother removed the rope. Borja got upset and fought with his brother. This prompted their mother to call the police.

Borja's mother also quoted her son as threatening to kill her.

Police found Borja at a nearby house and escorted him back to his mother's.

The mother told police that she is afraid that her son might hurt her, her husband, and her other children. She said Borja would get mad whenever she refused to give him money. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Sablan re-elected board chair; 13 polling sites certified

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Election Commission board of directors re-elected Frances M. Sablan as its chairperson and certified 13 official polling sites for the Nov. 2 elections yesterday.

Josepha Barcinas was also named the board's vice chairperson, a position created by a recently enacted election law.

Sablan

The nine-member board also includes Lelanie Manglona, Elizabeth Aldan, Antonio Agulto, Jesus Sablan, Jose Kiyoshi, and Donald Hofschneider.

The board also certified 13 locations as official polling stations for the Nov. 2 polls for U.S. delegate. These include:

■ Precinct 1: Hopwood Junior High School, Dandan Elementary School, and Koblerville Youth Center;

■ Precinct 2: Joeten Kiyu Public Library;

■ Precinct 3: Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium and Garapan Elementary School;

■ Precinct 4: Tanapag Elementary School, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School, Jesus P. Mafnas Legislative Building (Legislature), and the Northern Islands.

■ Precinct 5: Kagman Community Center

■ Precinct 6: Tinian Elementary School; and

■ Precinct 7: Rota campus of the Northern Marianas College

According to executive director Robert A. Guerrero, five of these polling sites are new locations after the commission determined that previous sites do not comply with the election law requirement that mandates a 300-foot neutral radius surrounding each polling station.

The commission is eyeing more than 18,000 voters this November as a result of new registrations.

Guerrero, along with board members, refused to comment on issues relating to the recusal of Attorney General Edward Buckingham from the election process and the inclusion of an exit poll on this year's ballots.

Guerrero pointed out that the attorney general's role in an election is merely to observe the process and that the AG's attention is called only when the commission is faced with complaints in the election process.

8 prostrate cancer cases in CNMI in 2009

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Eight cases of prostrate cancer were recorded in the CNMI last year, a significant drop from the 17 cases in 2008, according to a Department of Public Health official.

The 2009 record, however, covered only the public hospital, said Joanne Ogo in a presentation before members of the Saipan Rotary Club at Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday.

She attributed the reduction to the effective dissemination of information about the disease.

Based on current trends, the continuous aggressive campaign against prostrate cancer would help lessen the number of victims in coming years, she added.

September has been proclaimed Prostrate Cancer Awareness Month in the CNMI and a series of activities are lined up throughout the period.

Prostrate cancer is caused by a group of uncontrolled abnormal cells growing within the prostrate—a small gland below the bladder.

Ogo said risk factors are noted in men aged 50 and above, mostly among African-Americans, and men with a family history of the disease, according to DPH.

Ogo said this is also prevalent in underserved populations and, since the CNMI is considered underserved, the risk is high among men in the community.

Ogo advised men who may feel the symptoms to immediately seek medical help such as digital rectal exam and prostrate specific antigen.

"Through education and awareness, we can beat cancer in the CNMI," Ogo said.

Colorectal cancer

DPH, meanwhile, noted an alarming increase in the number of colorectal cancer cases in the CNMI.

Ogo disclosed that, so far, eight persons have died this year because of colorectal cancer, a cancer that starts in either the colon or the rectum.

Cancer of the colon and rectum is the third most common cancer in men and women in the United States and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths. More than 90 percent of colorectal cancer cases occur in people who are older than 50.

Colorectal cancer occurrence rates are highest among blacks; intermediate among whites, Asians, and Pacific Islanders; and lowest among American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Hispanics.

PROSTRATE CANCER SYMPTOMS

■ burning sensation during urination
■ blood in the urine
■ the need to urinate frequently, especially at night
■ weak or interrupted urine flow
■ inability to urinate
■ constant pain in the lower back, pelvis, or upper thighs

Risk factors
■ Age: men aged 50 and older
■ Race: African-American men or men of other races
■ Family history: father, grandfather, brother

Injured golfer alleges defective golf cart brakes

A Korean golfer is suing for the injuries he sustained, including a fractured shoulder bone, when he jumped off a golf cart that allegedly lost its brakes.

Chul Woo Ha sued the Kingfisher Golf Links in federal court for breach of duty, breach of warranty, and violation of the Consumer Protection Act.

Ha wants the Kingfisher Golf Links to pay him damages, court costs, and attorney's fees.

Ha's lawyer, G. Anthony Long, stated in the complaint that Ha and his friends were playing golf on Sept. 8, 2008, when the incident happened.

As Ha was driving the golf cart on a downward slope, the brakes failed and the cart began to increase in speed, Long said.

To avoid colliding with a big tree, Ha turned the cart and jumped off, breaking a shoulder bone and sustaining other injuries, Long said. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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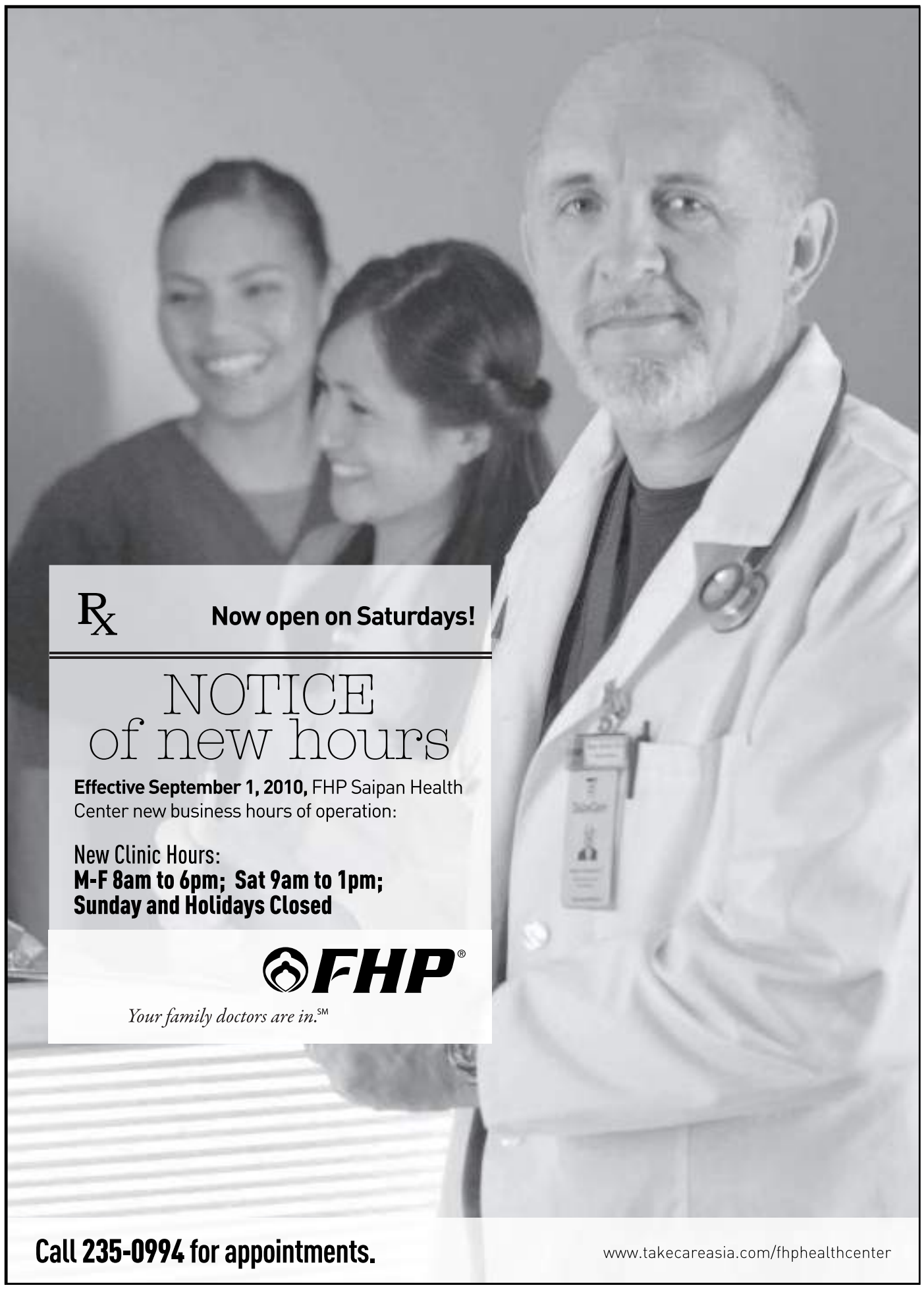
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OPA

From Page 1

and the OAG.

Pai urged Buckingham to "cease any campaign activities in the name of your office."

OPA also offered to provide legal counsel to the Commonwealth Election Commission "to remove any further appearance of impartiality in the upcoming election."

Buckingham, in a statement to the media on Friday, said he recuses himself from all involvement and oversight of the November 2010 election.

The campaign committee of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, who is seeking re-election, said yesterday that Buckingham's recusal is "an insufficient and premature response."

Buckingham and the OAG hosted Camacho's campaign gathering held at Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's private residence in Gualo Rai on Aug. 28.

"OPA is undertaking an investigation into the substance of the complaints. …Please let this letter serve as a notice and invitation to respond or present information, including the names of witnesses you wish to have interviewed," Pai told Buckingham in a Sept. 3 letter, a copy of which was obtained yesterday.

Pai gave Buckingham until Sept. 10, 2010, to respond.

Pai said the complaints allege criminal violations of the CNMI Election Reform Act of 2000, and the Commonwealth Ethics Code Act of 1992.

"Specifically, each complaint alleges that a party hosted by you and the OAG on behalf of Joseph N. Camacho, a candidate for delegate to the United States House of Representatives, violated both the Election and Ethics Acts," Pai told Buckingham.

The public auditor said "without addressing the substance of the complaints, the media exposure of the event alone has created an appearance of impropriety and called the OAG's ability to provide impartial and objective legal advice and oversight into question."

"With free and fair elections an essential component of a democratic society, public confidence is paramount. In an effort to restore public confidence in the election process, OPA is wiling, if delegated by the OAG, to provide legal counsel to CEC during the upcoming election and will provide election monitoring at polling places as our staff numbers will allow," Pai told Buckingham.

Pai said that, while OPA is aware the OAG has invited the U.S. Department of Justice to observe the election, there has been no delegation of authority to render legal advice or represent the commission in any election disputes.

"Without such delegation, the appearance of impartiality by the OAG will not be removed," Pai added.

The delegate election is on Nov. 2.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed on Friday assistant attorney general Meaghan Hassel-Shearer to direct the OAG's activities related to the November election, with the full authority of the attorney general.

Hassel-Shearer has served as counsel for the CNMI Board of Elections.

'Recusal is insufficient response'

Besides Camacho and Sablan, two others are running for the delegate post: former governor Juan N. Babauta of the Republican Party, and former lieutenant governor Jesse Borja of the Democratic Party.

Borja was one of those who lodged a formal complaint with OPA against Buckingham and the OAG.

Babauta said in an interview that it was unfortunate that Buckingham is "mixing politics and his very important role" as attorney general.

Sablan's campaign committee, for its part, filed an Open Government Act request for records from the OAG related to Buckingham and the OAG's hosting of the gathering for Camacho.

"The integrity of the November 2nd election for delegate to the U.S. Congress and the right of self-government embodied in the Covenant has been threatened by the apparent involvement of the Office of the Attorney General in partisan political activities in support of a candidate in the election. The reported recusal of Attorney General Buckingham alone and the reported selection by Governor Fitial of another member of the Office of the Attorney General to oversee the election is an insufficient and premature response," the committee said in a statement issued yesterday.

It said it is not the decision of the attorney general or the governor whether the election has been compromised by their action.

It is up to the Election Commission, the public auditor, federal authorities, and others to make that determination and to decide what remedies are appropriate, the committee said.

"Third, the ethical violations, violations of law, and threat to the integrity of the election are not confined to the Attorney General himself. As Mr. Buckingham is reported to have said: 'the facts of the matter, when known, will exonerate me and the Office of the Attorney General.' By Mr. Buckingham's own admission, therefore, it is the entire office and everyone employed there whose involvement is in question," the committee said.

Kilili's campaign said the potential ethical violations, violations of law, and threat to self-government are not confined to the OAG.

The Covenant Party candidate has advertised a series of campaign events sponsored by and, potentially, employing the offices and government resources controlled by other members of the Fitial administration, it added.

The Committee to Elect Kilili filed with OAG an Open Government Act request for information on records related to the Camacho campaign.

"One thing is certain: if the winner of the November 2nd election goes to Congress with any question as to his legitimate election, it will be extremely difficult for that person to find acceptance by other members of Congress or to achieve anything of benefit for the people of the Northern Mariana Islands," the committee said.

PAYCHECKS

From Page 1

far come up with some $1.5 million to pay for those in critical service positions: doctors, nurses, police officers, corrections officers and firefighters.

He said the government needs $1.4 million to $1.5 million for the rest.

So far, the central government has collected some $500,000, and this will prioritize the purchase of pharmaceutical products, among other things.

Inos reiterated that the Public School System and Northern Marianas College, which spends some $1 million for each payroll, will be receiving their payroll on time on Friday.

But Inos said there is no guarantee that PSS and NMC will get their paychecks on time in the next few payrolls.

The deadline for paying gross revenue taxes for July to September is end of October; this means the government won't see a surge in cash collection anytime soon. The new fiscal year starts on Oct. 1.

This early, government employees are bracing themselves for a second payless payday.

One of them said the only consolation is that the Fitial administration announced the delayed paychecks days before the payroll set for Sept. 10.

"I'm already broke because the opening of classes is this week. If I don't get my paycheck on Friday, it will be very hard for me and my family," the female government employee on Capital Hill said.

The Fitial administration has prioritized bond and scholarship payments totaling some $2.9 million, over payroll of non-essential government employees.

This will be the second time in CNMI history that government payroll will be delayed. The first one was on June 18; most employees received their checks a few days later, on June 21.

CLASSROOM

From Page 1

are in full use. To accommodate the other enrollees, some classes have to wait for other classrooms to be vacated.

The school is designed for just 750 students.

Tudela said they have some "floating teachers" this school year who don't have designated classrooms and will have to wait for unoccupied classrooms to hold classes. The school has 30 classroom teachers.

Tudela said they need six more classrooms and at least five additional teachers: two for English; and one each for science, social studies, and mathematics. He said he has already asked the PSS finance office to provide him more teachers.

In the meantime, the school has been forced to turn away some students. Tudela admitted that he "redirected" 10 students to enroll at Marianas High School yesterday.

MHS anticipates its enrollment to reach 1,400 this year due to the rezoning of some areas in San Antonio and Koblerville.

Tudela, however, lauded the smooth opening of classes yesterday, attributing it to the well-organized planning of teachers and staff. To avoid long lines for class schedules, the school posted this year the students' class schedules at the counseling office. As early as 7am, teachers were helping students find their classrooms.

At Kagman High School, principal Alfred Ada said enrollment was at 785 as of yesterday, but the number may increase in coming days.

He described the opening as "very smooth" but admitted that most classes have student-to-teacher ratios of up to 33:1. He said he needs about seven more classrooms to spread the students. At present, KHS has 35 functional classrooms and seven "roaming teachers" who look for available classrooms for their sessions.

Ada said the additional classrooms and teachers would eliminate overcrowding. KHS has 44 classroom teachers.

Despite the high student-to-teacher ratios, Ada said his school successfully started classes because of the open house it conducted Friday where parents were briefed on their students' schedules.

Ada commended the positive attitude, creativity, and innovation of their teachers and lauded the support of the Commissioner's Office and the Board Of Education in finding solutions to their problems.

'Increased enrollment'

At Hopwood Junior High School, enrollment totaled 1,335 as of yesterday—a small increase from last year's 1,100 students.

Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas said the class opening was "smooth and well organized" despite the lack of classrooms.

Hopwood is short of six classrooms and needs four more teachers to improve its student-to-teacher ratio, which was at 33:1 yesterday.

The school has 60 classrooms and 53 teachers. However, more teachers are needed for math and vocational education class.

Barcinas also commended the support of parents in ensuring the smooth opening. He encouraged these parents to pick up their students' uniforms at the school library.

At San Vicente Elementary School, principal Joaquina Salas had only once concern: the traffic caused by the road work being done in the area.

"Everything went well…in our opening today," she said, adding that the open house last week was a factor in the smooth transition.

Compared to other big schools, San Vicente has almost the same number of enrollees as last year, 643. It has 37 teachers and 32 classrooms. She described the number as enough to meet the students' needs.

For the lower grades, Salas noted a student-to-teacher ratio of 20:1 while it is up at 26:1 for the upper grades. All 75 air-conditioning units were functional.

FITIAL

From Page 1

sations that the other's version is not "balanced."

House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider, and House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan), who were among the six lawmakers who met with Fitial at 3pm, separately said a conference committee on the budget is guaranteed.

This is because neither the House nor the Senate accepts each other's version of the budget bill.

Hofschneider said the Senate has yet to transmit the budget bill to the House.

In the end, they agreed to meet and discuss the differences in their budget, as well as revenue-generating, bills.

"There will definitely be a conference committee. We're willing to sit down with the Senate to do the right thing, and the right thing is to pass a budget so that the government will not shut down," Basa told *Saipan Tribune*.

Basa said that, based on media reports on the Senate's version of the budget bill, the changes are not agreeable to the House, including raising the budgets for Rota and Tinian.

Six of nine senators are from Rota and Tinian, while three are from Saipan.

Hofschneider said he is not surprised the House objects to the Senate amendments, but he is thankful that the governor called on the leaders of the Legislature.

"I commend the governor for bringing in the two sides of the Legislature, to try to bridge the gap," he said, adding that the Senate is also ready for a conference committee.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the governor still has faith in the Legislature—that it will be able to pass a budget before the end of the current fiscal year.

The Fitial administration is wary about the Senate's proposal to cut work hours by only eight hours per pay period, when the $132 million budget is already premised on a 16-hour cut per pay period.

Demapan said the governor will use his constitutional authority to define "essential services" that will be exempted from shutdown if the Legislature fails to pass a budget.

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, in a separate interview, said an eight-hour cut per pay period can't work alone; it has to be accompanied by revenue-generating bills, unless the Senate is looking at fewer number of government employees.

'Zero discretionary allowance for lawmakers'

Tenorio said he does not agree with most of the amendments the Senate made to the House budget bill, including the amounts for each lawmaker's annual discretionary fund and leadership account.

The Senate capped the discretionary funding at $86,000 for each lawmaker—far less than the House's $130,000 proposal.

The Senate also capped the leadership account at $120,330, greater than the House's proposal of $76,330. Tenorio wants to max it out to the constitutional limit of $400,000.

Tenorio's "personal" recommendation is not to give any more discretionary allowance to all 29 lawmakers, but give $400,000 to the House leadership account.

"No way I will accept anything less than $400,000," he said.

No House session has so far been set.

'Saipan casino a dead issue'

Hofschneider said as far as the Senate is concerned, the proposed Saipan casino is a "dead issue."

The Senate killed Tenorio's casino bill on a 7-0 vote with one abstention on Friday on Tinian.

Tenorio said he won't introduce a new casino bill or a legislative initiative unless the governor himself "wants to salvage the casino bill."

IN VILLAGOMEZ'S LATEST MOTION

Federal judge admits he blew it; reconsiders ruling

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

"I blew it! Even judges sometimes need more than one bite at the apple to get things right."

Thus stated U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Mark W. Bennett in granting former lieutenant governor Timothy P. Villagomez's motion for reconsideration in his ruling to reject Villagomez's request to settle the record in the case.

Villagomez's co-defendants James A. Santos and his wife, Joaquina V. Santos, joined in the motion.

Fortunately, Bennett said, Villagomez and the Santos couple were persistent in their efforts to supplement the record on appeal to give his court "another bite at the apple" to determine whether or not supplementation of the record is appropriate in the question of whether or not trial judge Alex R. Munson closed jury selection to the public.

Munson has retired and now resides in the U.S. mainland.

"This motion for reconsideration is a superb reminder of the important role such a motion can play in judicial decision making," Bennett said.

The judge set an evidentiary hearing on the defendants' motion to settle record on Nov. 8, 2010, at 9am.

Villagomez and the Santoses had asked the court to allow further briefing and conduct further proceedings to determine what truly occurred in the district court in so far as the question of public exclusion from the jury selection is concerned.

Attorney Dennis P. Riordan, on behalf of Villagomez and the Santos couple, asserted that the court misperceived the nature and scope of its authority under Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

In his order issued yesterday, Bennett said whether or not he "misperceived" the scope of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, he certainly "misperceived" the nature of the defendants' motion to settle record, which he believes was an error that requires setting aside his decision on that motion.

Bennett said he now reverses his prior conclusion that the defendants are improperly attempting to add new material to the record to collaterally attack the trial court's judgment.

He said he now agrees with the defendants that further proceedings are necessary to settle the record as to whether or not Munson directed that the public be excluded from jury selection.

Villagomez and the Santos couple are currently serving their sentences in federal prison for their participation in the Rydlyme corruption scandal.

CNMI Domonnaka back on Saipan

The CNMI Domonnaka dance team is back on Saipan after representing the islands in the Domatsuri Festival held on Aug. 28.

The team left on Aug. 27 and returned on Aug. 29.

Gordon Marciano of Pacific Development Inc. said the team members were chosen from the performing groups that supported the Domatsuri group from Nagoya during the 2010 Liberation Day festivities.

The CNMI Domonnaka dancers are from the Island Warriors, Tipi-yeew, Welipal, Refaluwasch Warriors, and CPI II dance teams.

"Through the support of the Marianas Visitors Authority and Delta Air Lines, the CNMI Domonnaka team were able to represent the CNMI in Nagoya," said Gordon.

According to Gordon, the Chamolinian Cultural Village Inc., and PDI introduced the Domonnaka dance team from Nagoya to MVA about eight years ago so the CNMI could establish its own Domonnaka dance team.

"[Whenever] the CNMI team was scheduled to dance, they are always a favorite among the performers, fascinated by their unique style of dance wear and performance they are always greeted by spectators and performers," said Gordon.

The concept also intends to build and foster goodwill with other dancers in the Domonnaka festival, he added.

Aside from the 221 performers spread out on 20 stages throughout Nagoya, Gordon said two million people visited Nagoya this year to witness the event.

He said 50,000 brochures were produced and millions more watched the festival on live television.

"The program today is one of the most successful promotional [methods] being used by MVA and Delta Air Lines in bringing both countries closer through its history, culture and dance," Gordon said. ***(Clarissa David)***

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SI COLONEL

Lack of funding could hinder compliance with DEQ orders

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Rota and Tinian mayor's offices are working to address the separate administrative orders issued by the Division of Environmental Quality for each islands' municipal dump.

Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune* that he had already asked DEQ director Frank Rabauliman for an extension on a deadline to address the violations of the municipal dump.

The Tinian mayor agreed with Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan, who said the agency requires the necessary manpower and the equivalent funding to be in compliance with the order.

"We just cannot do it. The municipal government [doesn't] have the resources to address this thing," he emphasized.

Dela Cruz said he also made a request to hire six full-time positions to address the stipulations in DEQ's administrative order.

"I'm still waiting for the governor to actually approve [the request,]" he said.

"Everything is on a standstill now because nothing is moving," added the Tinian mayor.

According to Dela Cruz, they are also looking at other sources of funding like capital improvements project funds so they could comply with the order.

He said the Tinian delegation has already approved the reprogramming of $1 million for the renovation of public facilities on Tinian, some of which can be used to address the violations cited in the order.

Dela Cruz is concerned about the penalties they may have to pay if they are not able to comply with the order.

"If we don't address this thing, we're going to be fined $100 a day. I don't know where we're going to get the money," he said.

The Tinian mayor is asking the central government to help it solve these problems, which he said he only "inherited."

Efren Atalig, special assistant for administration at the Rota Mayor's Office, said they are doing their best with the little funding they have in trying to meet the terms stated in the order.

Atalig said they are working closely with DPW "to take care of the situation."

According to Atalig, they are currently securing the perimeters of the Rota municipal dump by putting up gates and fencing.

"Fortunately, we have materials available within our disposal," he said.

Atalig said they are also looking at available funding sources that would allow them to hire and train more people in charge of the dump.

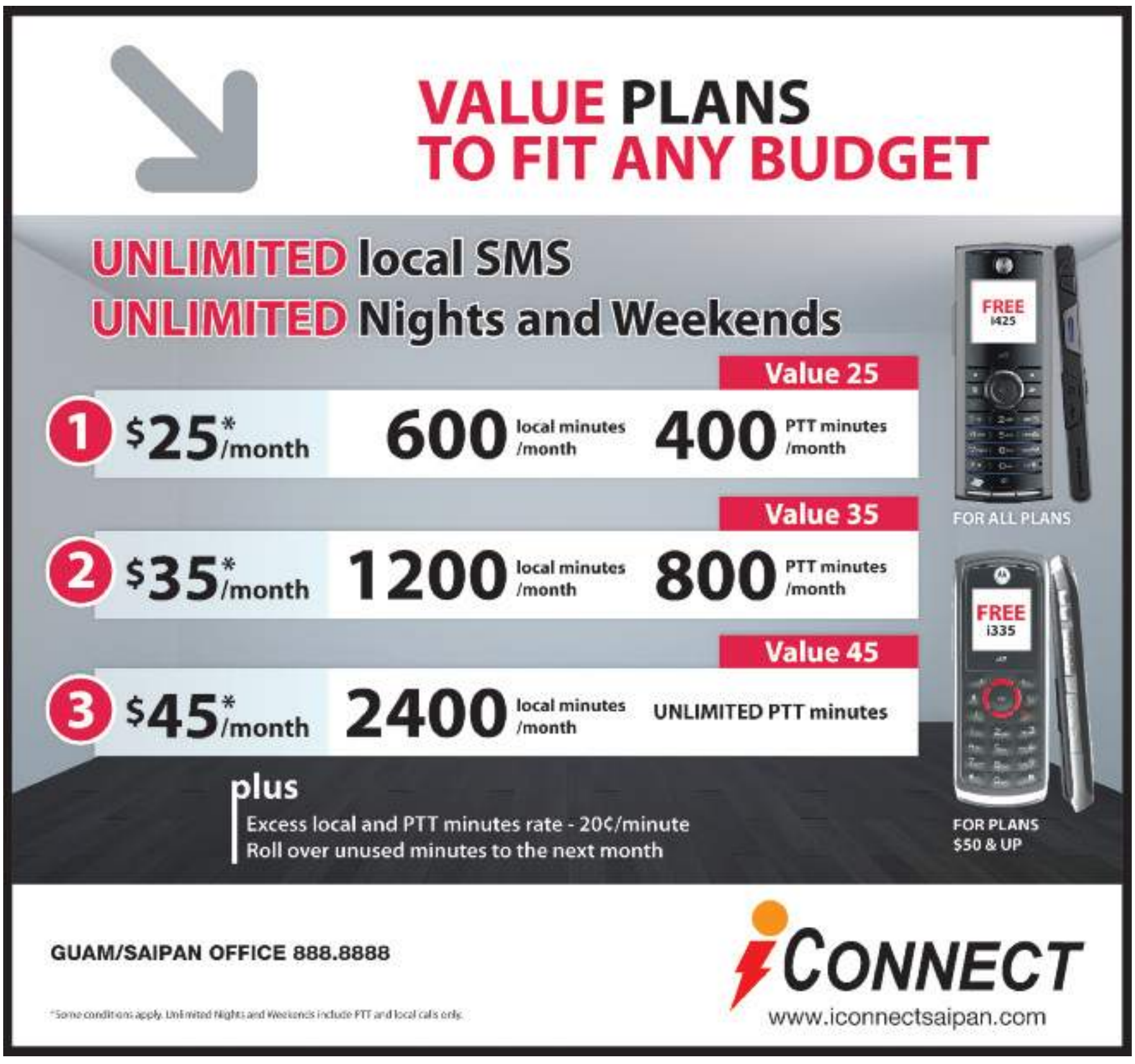
Although he expressed concern about the penalties stated in the order, Atalig said they would expend efforts to prove that they want to be in compliance.

"In order to prevent further fines, we want to show in good faith that we are doing something about it," he said.

DEQ had issued three separate administrative orders to DPW and the mayor's offices of Tinian and Rota for failure to comply with applicable landfill operating requirements.

DEQ stated in these orders that these failures to comply pose a threat to human health and the environment.

The administrative orders follow DEQ inspections of the Tinian municipal dump on Jan. 20, the Rota municipal dump on Jan. 21, and the Marpi Solid Waste Facility on Saipan on Jan. 16, in compliance with the Commonwealth Solid Waste Management Act and the CNMI Solid Waste Management Regulations.



CPA junks Tinian Dynasty's proposal to write off arrears

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

No forgiveness.

This was the Commonwealth Ports Authority board's decision on the proposal of Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino to write off a large portion of its arrears with the agency.

CPA executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero confirmed yesterday that board members junked the company's request to "clear" some $210,000 of its outstanding obligations to the agency.

Tinian Dynasty, which operates the Tinian Shipping & Transportation Inc., owes CPA $310,000 as a result of an unfulfilled settlement between CPA and Tinian Shipping relating to the failure of the shipping firm to pay passenger fees as required in their lease agreement.

Tinian Dynasty now wants to make a one-time $100,000 payment for these arrears in consideration of the company's shaky financial standing.

This financial problem, in part, spurred Tinian Dynasty to suspend its operation of the Tinian Express last year.

It now wants to resume ferry operations this year but Tinian Dynasty said its potential investor would only come in if the company's "books" are cleared of the $310,000 liability.

Guerrero said, though, that the board of directors wants every single cent of this obligation to be collected because CPA is also dealing with its own financial problems.

However, the board gave Deleon Guerrero the authority to negotiate with the company regarding new payment terms.

"We decided to accept the $100,000 payment…but the board wants no forgiveness on the remaining amount [$210,000]. CPA is also in financial trouble and we badly need those payments from Tinian Dynasty. Everybody is suffering. However, I was given the authority to negotiate on the new payment term for the balance," Deleon Guerrero said yesterday, adding that the agency's legal counsel is now finalizing the management's letter to the company.

Tinian Shipping and Transportation Inc.'s ferry service between Saipan and Tinian was suspended on March 16 this year, citing the need for the vessel's repair and to comply with the American Bureau of Shipping's regulations. This resulted in Tinian residents and tourists relying solely on air transportation to travel to and from Tinian.

In order for the company to continue operating the ferry service, Tinian Dynasty officials said they are restructuring the shipping company so they could get new investors.

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Rota: 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. – Téteto Beach

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MELL SILOSO	009E	8/28 Sat	8/26 Thu	8/26 Thu	8/24 Tue	8/21 Sat	9/3 Fri	8/30 Mon	8/29 Sun	8/22 Sun	8/22 Sun	8/30 Mon	9/3 Fri	9/5 Sun	9/7 Tue
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MELL SPRINGLEAF	009E	9/11 Sat	9/9 Thu	9/9 Thu	9/7 Tue	9/4 Sat	9/17 Fri	9/13 Mon	9/12 Sun	9/5 Sun	9/5 Sun	9/13 Mon	9/17 Fri	9/19 Sun	9/21 Tue
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MELL SPRINGLEAF	010E	10/2 Sat	9/30 Thu	9/30 Thu	9/28 Tue	9/25 Sat	10/8 Fri	10/4 Mon	10/3 Sun	9/26 Sun	9/26 Sun	10/4 Mon	10/8 Fri	10/10 Sun	10/12 Tue

Inbound from Asia	Voyage No.	ETA Guam	ETD Guam	ETA Saipan	ETA Yap	ETA Koror	ETA Davao	ETA GenSan	ETA Cebu	ETA Hongkong	ETA Kaoshiung	ETA Busan	ETA Yokohama	ETA Manila	ETA Singapore
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BEFORE THE COMMONWEALTH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION – ELECTRIC DIVISION **DOCKET 09-1**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT at 9:00 a.m. on September 17, 2010, the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission [Commission] will conduct a public hearing and regulatory workshop at the offices of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Family Building, Garapan to consider the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation's [CUC] position on the levelized energy adjustment clause [LEAC], which the Commission should be set for the period October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011. On December 19, 2008, the Commission established a LEAC clause in CUC's tariff by which a semi-annual rate is set and adjusted to enable CUC to recover its projected fuel and related expenses. On May 28, 2010, the Commission established the current rate of $0.24446 per kWh. CUC and the Commission's regulatory consultant have recommended that a new rate of $0.24100 per kWh be established for the upcoming six month period, which is a slight reduction in the current rate. On or before September 11, 2010, CUC's formal LEAC report, which supports the proposed rate, will be posted on the website of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Public Utilities for public review. Other collateral regulatory matters may also be discussed at the hearing.

At the hearing CUC will also brief the Commission on the status of: a] its accounts receivable; b] its progress in Docket 10-01 in providing operational meters for all commercial and government water customers; c] unmetered wastewater service; and d] discussions with Georgetown regarding regulatory reporting requirements.

The Commission welcomes the public's attendance at the hearing and will also welcome public comments at the conclusion of the hearing. Persons who desire to participate in the hearing pursuant to 4 CMC § 8409(j) should on or before September 12, 2010 file with the Commission at the office of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce an application and offer of proof in accordance with § 8409(j) and Commission Procedural Rule 11(c).

Further information about the hearing and the public's right to participate may be obtained from Commissioner Kyle Calabrese at 670-233-7150.

2 masseuses arrested for alleged 'ice' trafficking

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Authorities arrested on Friday two masseuses who are allegedly engaged in selling methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

Tang Yue Xin, 39, and Li Ping Zhou, 30, both Chinese nationals, were brought to the Superior Court yesterday on charges of illegal possession of a controlled substance and trafficking of a controlled substance.

Associate Judge David Wiseman imposed a $3,000 cash bail and $27,000 unsecured bond each for their temporary liberty.

Preliminary hearing was set for Sept. 15, 2010, at 9am.

Detective Roque K. Camacho stated in his report that he received a call Friday afternoon from a "cooperating source" who disclosed that Zhou had just hid something under the kitchen sink of their barracks in As Lito.

Camacho said he proceeded to the backside of the barracks and talked with the cooperating source.

Later Xin, whom the cooperating source tagged as the supplier of "ice" to Zhou, arrived on a scooter.

Camacho said he advised the cooperating source to get the item that Zhou tried to hide.

The cooperating source then handed to Camacho the item—an empty pack of Marlboro cigarette that contained "ice" placed in two small ziplock bags in a rolled up tissue.

Camacho said he left the area and met with two other detectives who were waiting at the front entrance to the barracks.

Later that night, Camacho said, he and members of the Drug Enforcement Task Force went back to Zhou's residence on a marked police vehicle.

Camacho said he confronted Zhou who was standing outside the door of her room and was about to enter it.

The detective said he saw Xin inside the room massaging a Chinese man on the bed.

Camacho said he instructed everybody to exit the room and asked Zhou if she has "ice" inside her room.

He said Zhou showed him her wallet, which contained "ice" in a ziplock bag placed in two rolled up tissue.

Camacho said Zhou confessed she took the "ice" from Xin.

During a consent search, Camacho said he found more "ice" in Zhou's room.

Other detectives also searched Xin's house and they also found "ice."

Zhou and Xin were then arrested.

Camacho did not indicate in the report how much "ice" were seized from the two suspects.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 8, 2000

Pregnancy bill faces overhaul

Changes will be made to legislation freeing employers from paying full medical costs of their pregnant nonresident workers, according to its author Rep. Dino M. Jones who claimed it has drawn wide support in the community. He said the amendments would tie the proposal to child support laws placing the burden to the father as well as to labor regulations permitting transfer of employees to another employer. The House Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations is expected to conduct public hearings on the three islands to gather inputs from members of the community as well as government agencies, the representative said.

OVR promotes empowerment of youths with disabilities

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation has introduced the inclusion of educational youth programs into its Fiscal Year 2001 state plan in efforts to empower youths with disabilities. According to OVR Director Tee Abraham, the agency has opted to add in new initiatives specifically designed for the youth in order to prepare them for future employment. The agency has proposed for a stay-in-school program tailored for junior high school students. Under this program, OVR will be working closely with high school students enrolled under Special Education. The goal of this initiative is to provide for juniors one summer where they would be free to explore a career of their choice.

Sept. 8, 2002

College strengthens ties with the NMI business community

Northern Marianas College President Dr. Kenneth E. Wright disclosed plans to create a local workforce that would cater to the CNMI businesses. Speaking before the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, Wright also revealed plans to coordinate with the CNMI business community to find out more of their employment needs. "The NMC will be a partner to the CNMI business community. We will be cooperating with them and hold a series of dialogue to help them. We want to know what they need and what we can do to assist them," said the new NMC president.

Tinian's historic road gets a facelift

TINIAN—Built immediately after World War II by thousands of American Seabees, Broadway is a strip of two parallel roads over 3,000 feet long stretching from the northern to southern tips of Tinian. The over 50-year old historical road is finally getting a repavement, and the Federal Highway Authority is footing the bill as part of infrastructure development. "[On Friday] we assessed the potholes, cracks and other dangerous fissures in the road," said Ernie Hofschneider, resident director of the Department of Public Works on Tinian. According to Hofschneider, Broadway is the main thoroughfare of the island. "It is critical to road safety to address the Broadway repavement, because to get anywhere on Tinian, one has to drive on Broadway—trucks, buses, and private vehicles all drive on it daily."

Sept. 8, 2003

'Asylum issue part of local control over immigration'

If the Commonwealth wants to retain local control over immigration, then it must be ready to assume all issues that fall within the arena of immigration, including asylum, according to House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider. At the same time, Hofschneider said Friday that the Commonwealth's political relationship with the United States through the Covenant requires it to live up to the treaties and international laws that the U.S. government commits itself to, including the U.N. Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the U.N. Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Lawmaker demands statement from WASC

A Saipan lawmaker may move to stop an ongoing investigation by the U.S. Department of Education of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges on issues involving the Northern Marianas College if WASC issues a statement affirming that NMC employees cannot be terminated "without cause." "My only real concern with your office is that you haven't made a statement about the basic due process protections for NMC employees. If I may respectfully request…and if you agree, I will then ask the USDE to cease its investigation," said Rep. Stanley Torres in an Aug. 12 letter to ACCJC executive director Barbara Beno.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section*

Bike Trails 9: Entitlements

NMPASI the advocacy group has had its hands full lately with the housing grants it administer not only for the "disabled" community but also the "homeless," which we now find out, are out of luck when it comes to public assistance. The deluge of applicants at the start inundated staff workload, and when NMPASI limited benefits to six months in order to spread the benefits wider, remarks were made claiming the granting of benefits was not evenly made. Some were perceived to have received 18 months coverage. This has since been clarified to be untrue. This is not unusual. Anytime a temporary public assistance is offered, the likelihood of its turning into someone's entitlement is high, and the sense of uneven application of benefits unavoidable.

I also slowly slid into the trap of entitlement not too long ago with a parking permit. I used to hung out at the NMPASI office when I still had a pickup and I parked in one of their two slots for the disabled because I displayed a permit, though issued to another car.

A friend left a vehicle with a disability placard in my care when she moved across the channel so when she was in town, she could park the car in disability parking spaces. When she finally disposed of her vehicle, she "transferred" the permit to my vehicle by having it displayed when she drove my car.

Two of my kids are autistic, and my volunteer work made me transport on occasion a blind person, one with cerebral palsy, and one with X-syndrome. I have a partial medical disability of a degenerative *cervical spondylosis,* or neck osteoarthritis, so I have personally identified with the differently-abled group, being nonchalant in the use of the handicapped placard. I obviously stretched the legal privilege a bit, but Saipan is not exactly known for legal "eyes" to be always dotted and "tees" meticulously crossed, so I accommodated myself into the boundaries of what was allowed.

What is allowed is not always legal, nor ignored. On a Sunday afternoon before Joeten Susupe closed, I rushed in for a purchase. The handicapped parking space at the front was available; I displayed the old plaque on the dashboard. The stop was a quickie.

Waiting at the car upon my return was a police officer. Affirming that I was the driver, I showed him the car

See BIKE on Next Page

Must repeal convoluted policies

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Delrosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

The NMI had everything going for itself 32 years ago. There was a seven-year guaranteed funding from the federal government. This gave birth to the confidence we had under the new political relationship. Coupled with this financial guarantee was the heavy infusion of investment funds from the region. Nothing could have possibly gone wrong. In retrospect, however, a lot has gone wrong in paradise.

The questions that keep parading in mind are: What was the culprit for this mess? Was it a culture of *mañana*? Is it the aversion to understanding that paradigms have changed and must change from our old ways to the responsibilities of U.S. citizenship?

Having written and covered events here as they unfold over the same period, it is clear most indigenous folks embraced the culture of populism even at the expense of failing to understand with clarity what's under the Covenant agreement. Sad that such is the case. Interesting too how many have no idea what's under Article XII of the NMI Constitution. The quick reaction is: It doesn't allow foreigners landownership here, including U.S. citizens.

But they have never seen the flipside: Article XII also took away their rights to 100 percent landownership. Landownership can't be "infringed" nor "violated" under the principle of ownership. Nor is it allowed to displace others due to ethnicity. It's an issue so critically misunderstood but has fanned the fire of aversion to repealing it. It's a policy that has contributed to the prevailing and deepening economic paralysis.

The protectionist and discriminatory aspect of Article XII isn't an answer to the myriad of opportunities that lie ahead. If you can't dispose of and benefit from your land, then what good is it? If this constitutional mandate fails investors, do we really expect lasting partnerships with these folks in forging prosperity? In brief: Where do we go from here? *(Note: I would discuss this in greater detail in subsequent publications).*

We need not go further than our southern neighbor of Guam. It has fee simple on land purchases while ours is limited to the indigenous people. The value of their real estate has gone up recently. Guam thrives while we take a nosedive! It is time to seriously review any and all constitutional and statutory provisions that have derailed the rights of landowners to be direct beneficiaries of their land, including long-term investments.

Meanwhile, there's a provision under the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Law known as EB5 that permits private businesses in a state or the state government to grant green cards to investors. The required investment is $500K, plus proof that this amount could employ at least 10 workers.

The State of Vermont has used this provision of law to renovate its world-famous ski resort. In no time, some $125 million came in from investors to defray the cost of refurbishing the entire facility. U.S. Immigration watches and guides this form of investment. Investors' families also receive greed cards and have 10 years to secure full U.S. citizenship.

With green cards, investors and families are free to move about like any other U.S. citizen, knowing that their investments are fully protected. In other words, this sense of security premised on the right to property (land) encourages business expansion or new ventures. It's a good provision of law that the NMI may wish to review for its own economic benefits. But don't move too fast yet. Let's dissect what's the difference in this investment scheme.

In the NMI, we give foreign investors 40-55 year leases of public and private land, respectively. In either case, the entire investment returns to the government and private landowner upon expiration of the lease agreement. This doesn't provide protection to investors, does it? Is this the way we wish to do business here in perpetuity? Isn't it a perfect recipe to fanning the fire of deeper bankruptcy? Isn't this mode of investment an invitation to total annihilation even before establishing a healthy economy? We may have an aversion to change, but change is a must if we wish to get somewhere into the promised land of prosperity.

The prevailing vacuum in leadership would lead to dire economic disaster beyond our wildest imaginings. We boast off dismissive arrogance, inconsistent, irrelevant, convoluted and contradictory policies that have created a huge sinkhole in the local coffers. These misgivings have further fanned the fire of investment instability full square. Building a hopeful bamboo reed airplane (cargo cult mentality) is comforting but makes a screeching halt in fantasyland.

It also involves synergistic working relationships among leadership and with benefactors in Washington. This is even more critical today than at any other time in our developmental history.

The vacuum in leadership has also forced the business community to quietly ask: Is this it? Is this our future? Is this a microcosm of what lies ahead? Shouldn't we be meeting daily to hammer out a map to veer off total bankruptcy of what's left of the local economy? Is anybody home?

These are legitimate questions coming from private industries. There's also the need to proactively help small businesses navigate the treacherous sea of current conditions. Believe it or not, when this sector goes, it would drag down everybody else with them.

Like a windsurfer, each crash means a return to reset another take-off into the whippy trade winds, holding and guiding our sails steadily forward amidst rough surf below. At the end of the day, we would have fine-tuned our skills, returning the next day with greater confidence to deal with inclement conditions in the whippy trade winds of paradise and rough seas. It's a model we can follow with resiliency. Let's do it today!

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The power of action and manifestation

The only way to take control of your life, raise your standard of living and move beyond merely surviving is to create your own unique product or service that you offer to increasing numbers of people in exchange for the things of value that you desire. This simple formula applies to countries as well as people. A self-sufficient economy has its own products or services of value to export to the world. Similarly, a self-sufficient individual has something of value to exchange in the global marketplace. That thing of value is based on your natural talent, skill, or interest—in other words, your passion!

Steps 6 & 7 in the creative process

In previous *columns ["The Power of Clarity (1)": July 29, 2010; "The Power of Visualization (2)": Aug 4, 2010; "The Power of Acceptance (3)": August 11, 2010, "The Power of Focus (4)": August 18, 2010], and "The Power of Intuition (5)"*: Sept 1, 2010], we spoke about the need to have clear and specific descriptions and images of your goals as the first step in bringing them into reality. We covered the need to visualize (or sensorize) your desired reality as often as possible. We discussed removing the mental and emotional blocks that may prevent you from committing to your goals. We touched on the need to focus your attention on the desired outcome, and we suggested developing your intuitive abilities to receive guidance on what you should do. This brings us to Steps 6 and 7 in the 7-Step Creative process: Action and Manifestation

Action

Once you receive guidance on what you need to do next, your next step is simply to do the things you are guided to do. I know that is easier said than done. Many people are reluctant to take action for any number of reasons: perhaps they are not clear on what they want to achieve; they don't feel worthy of the goals they desire; they have difficulty focusing on a single goal for sufficient lengths of time, and so on. In other words, they have not addressed the previous 5 steps in the creative process. You can see, therefore, that taking action is easier if you have practiced and performed all the previous steps.

Belief

In my experience, the single most important block to achievement is one's belief level—people don't sincerely believe that what they desire is actually possible for them. They may not voice that lack of belief out loud, as it is typically subconscious, but if they really believed that certain outcomes were possible in their lives, they would find the necessary paths to achieve them. That's why many life coaches recommend setting believable goals as the first step in creating the reality you desire. If, for example, you wish to make more money, and are currently earning $10,000 a year, then you wouldn't set a goal to earn $1 million by this time next month. A more believable goal to strive for might be $15,000/year. That's something your mind would have an easier time believing.

Discipline

The next most important quality to develop in order to take action is discipline. Discipline is the ability to continue on a course of action toward an outcome even when the initial desire and excitement surrounding that outcome is long gone. It is the ability to say "no" to instant gratification. It is the ability to keep getting up at 5am in order to work on your dream life before going to work. It is the ability to stay in and work and resist life's numerous temptations and distractions to do otherwise. It is the ability to act according to your internal moral compass to achieve your long-term goals, even though others encourage you to veer off course for short-term gains. And, it is the ability to keep doing all of the preceding year after year if necessary, even when it appears that everything is going wrong and the dreams seem out of reach.

Flexibility

As you proceed through life, you evolve. As you evolve, so might your dreams and the paths required to get you there. Therefore, as you take action and move toward your dream life, it may be necessary to readjust your course every so often. Be willing to redefine yourself, redefine your objectives and redefine your strategy. In other words, be flexible and look for opportunities for reinvention where others see failure.

Reconstruction

If you are living in a house and wish to build a bigger, better house, it may be necessary to demolish the existing house to its foundation before you start building anew. In much the same way, once this creative universe we live in gets its orders from you that you want to change your reality, mysterious forces are set in motion that begin making the necessary changes in your life. If you've been living with people who think negatively and are going nowhere in their lives, you may find yourselves arguing more frequently and spending less time with them. Or it may suddenly dawn on you that a "significant other," has grown in an entirely different direction from where you now find yourself. You may have to make some hard decisions about who to keep with you on your journey, and who to leave by the roadside. If not, these individuals may hold you back from reaching your dreams.

We live in a receptive and constructive universe that responds to our thoughts. When you say you want a better life, visualize and set goals accordingly, things naturally start to happen to bring you the life you desire. (Really! It's true!) What happens, however, is that most people miss the clues, and interpret the ensuing chaos, tension, stress, turmoil, strained relationships, disagreements, disappointments, betrayals and lack of support from those they love as an indication that they've made a bad decision. Or worse, they fail to see the connection their new way of thinking is having on their relationships and environment, and get distracted putting out seemingly unexpected, and unrelated fires in their lives.

What is actually happening is a commonly experienced phenomenon I call "The Reconstruction Crisis." Be warned, and do not resist it. It is the crisis of demolition of your old life that must precede the building of your new one.

The result of action is...

Finally, step 7 of the Creative Process is Manifestation: the coming true of your dreams.

Slowly but sure, piece by piece or perhaps even miraculously overnight, the dream that you have been clear about, visualized, accepted, focused on, intuitively guided toward, and acted on with discipline and consistency, will take form in your life.

Your mission:

Starting today, review the seven-step creative process. Get clear on your desired reality. Do the research. Make the call. Buy the book. Take the course. Complete the application. Seek out mentors. Get advice and encouragement from specific people who think the way you think, or who have accomplished what you wish to accomplish. Implement the seven-step creative process each day, every day, and then experience first-hand what it feels like to live a dream come true!

Happy Manifestation!

Inspired by Paul Scheele

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Note: Fans and followers of the book, *Jamaican on Saipan*, may order a copy on jamaicanonsaipan.com.

Note: Ever wanted to direct your friends and family to a set of websites that revealed the best things about Saipan? Do what I do: send them to www.bestofsaipan.com!

Until next week, remember, success is a journey, not a destination!

■ ■ ■ ■

Send article suggestions, entrepreneur nominations and feedback about this article to walt@passionprofit.com.

THE SAIPANPRENEUR PROJECT

Creating economic success for the CNMI

By WALT F.J. GOODRIDGE
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Walt F.J. Goodridge is author of 16 books including Turn Your Passion Into Profit. Walt offers coaching and workshops to help people pursue and profit from their passions. Originally from the island of Jamaica, Walt has grown several successful businesses in the US, and now makes his home here on Saipan. To learn more, visit www.passionprofit.com and follow Walt on Twitter (waltonsaipan).

Suggestion for our leaders

Our leaders always appropriate money to the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College and still they want more money. Education is always the first to get money, but our leaders never ask them to provide the type of education that the community really needs.

What if we ask our leaders to require NMC to meet the community's education demands by 70 percent? I mean 70 percent of their graduates should be working in our community. All government employees should be trained and certified for the position they have and be given credits for the training they have completed and passed. All other careers or jobs available in CNMI must be offered at the college, whether it is a degree program or certificate—everything should be available so that everyone in the community could get their share of the job pie.

Also, Employment Services should be given additional funds to work with NMC and improve the CNMI workforce by decreasing unemployment in the next two to four years. Employment Service should provide NMC with its list of careers in the CNMI and have NMC offer the classes, training, and other educational needs. At the end of two years, both Employment Services and NMC must provide a report on their progress.

Next, all agencies responsible for educating or providing trainings for the CNMI workforce must be evaluated. Each agency must provide statistics for all those clients that they have successfully served and those they failed. NMC must also be mandated to provide the educational needs for WIA, OVR, Employment Services and OPM.

Since we are heading toward the federal minimum wage requirements, we might as well start improving our workforce, starting with salary. The skills and performance of all government and private employees must be evaluated, tested and be certified by NMC, so that he/she get credit for his/her qualification. NMC and OPM must work together to identify the salary scale for each position certified. And everyone must be paid according to the salary they're supposed to receive.

For Employment Services, all job titles or positions available or being filled must also be published and make available for job seekers to view for references.

But before all these are done, NMC must evaluate all of its employees and certify them so that we will have confidence in attending college.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose, Tinian

BIKE

From Page 10

registration and the disability placard. He took the placard and inquired where the handicapped person was. When I said that the person was elsewhere, the officer informed me that the use of the placard was vehicle- and person-specific. That made sense. I did not have a quarrel with the officer. I was actually delighted to see him do his job, on a Sunday afternoon no less.

Strangely, the officer asked if I knew the out-of-uniform gentleman who stood at a distance. It turned out to be my former neighbor, a sergeant in the force, who called in the possible violation. "Officer," I said, "if I violated the law, then issue me a citation and I will pay the fine." "The gentleman is an officer of the force. Do you know him?" he asked again. I said that whether I knew him or not was not relevant. If I violated an ordinance, then he needed to write me a citation. I speculated. I supposed that if I told him the name of the officer, that he was a former neighbor, I might have gotten off with a warning. That's not uncommon. But I was adamant that he wrote me a ticket. He did.

When I went to pay the fine, my prepared $25 needed to be sixfold. Unauthorized parking in a handicapped space carries a $150 fine! Unaffordable at my current underemployment state, I decided to appear before the judge to plead for a lower fine. I showed up in court noticing my name missing in the judges' calendar. The police officer must have assumed that I would just pay the fine.

The judge was cordial, explaining that the bench did not have a copy of the officer's citation so I was not in the calendar. I was asked whether I came to contest the charge or pay the fine, and I told the court, I came to plead to have the fine lowered so that I could pay it. The judge just smiled. Anyway, the deputy AG prosecutor looked at the disability permit, and said that since the officer did not submit the original copy of the citation, the prosecutor would let the case be resolved with no charges or fine. He did not bother to quip that I should heed the officer's advice about the placard being vehicle- and person-specific. But I got the hint.

Down the hall, Judge Ken *Muchacho* Govendo (I earlier said that I will call him that without disrespect for a year) now appears to have lost the handle a few times as people blatantly came to his court to take advantage of Uncle Sam's legal entitlements. It would be of interest to find out how many of our legal immigrant-wannabes are dependent on the dole but that might be privileged info. But with such knowledge, we can decide to really assist them, rather than condemn them for being opportunistic and mercenary.

Anyway, I bike these days with my camera in a satchel, ready to snap a digital photo of cars who take liberties of handicapped parking without the requisite permit, now that I know there are two officers in the force who care about the proper use of the space. And I will refrain from falling into the entitlement crap, I mean, trap ever again!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°	▲87° ▼78°

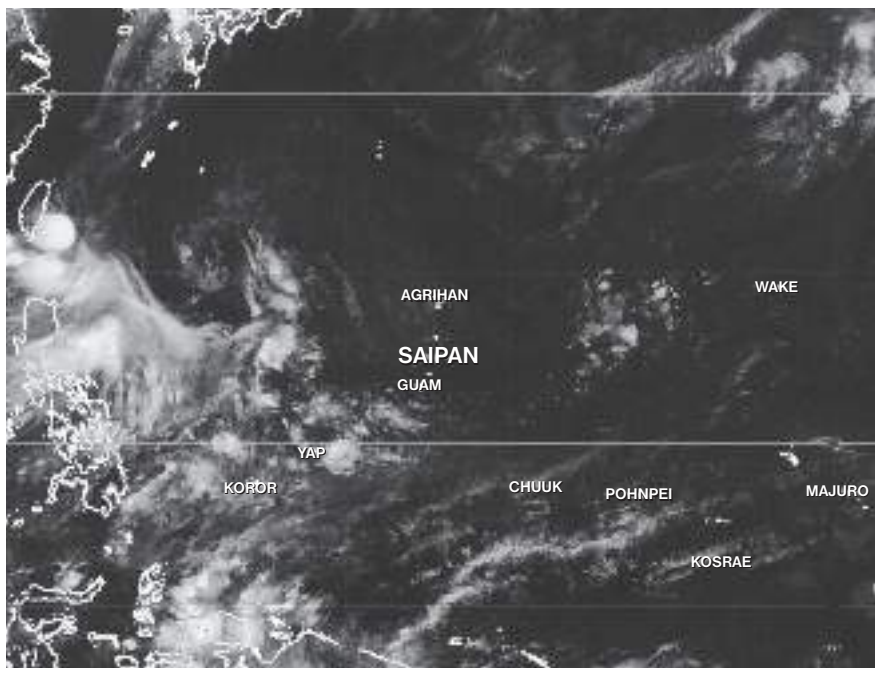
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼78
Yap	Rain	▲86	▼77
Chuuk	Partly Sunny	▲82	▼77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲88	▼73
Kosrae	Showers	▲89	▼76
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲60	▼53
Beijing	Cloudy	▲80	▼64
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼72
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼75
London	Rain	▲66	▼57
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲67	▼55
Manila	Thundershowers	▲87	▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲63	▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼79
New York	Showers	▲86	▼61
Osaka	Sunny	▲91	▼75
Paris	Fog	▲70	▼54
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲82	▼73
Rome	Sunny	▲80	▼62
Salem	Showers	▲67	▼53
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲59	▼52
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲75	▼69
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲85	▼76
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲92	▼66

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Upper-level divergence near an upper low centered northwest of the Marianas near 20N134E is triggering scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 80 miles of a line extending from 16N130E to 14N134E to 16N137E ending at 19N138E and within 120 miles of 20N133E. Another upper low west of Wake Island near 21N159E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 80 miles of a line from 17N158E to 19N161E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms northwest of Yap and Koror and west of the Marianas within 150 miles of a line extending from 8N131E to 14N144E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:08 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
6:42 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
1:30 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
7:48 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:24 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:30 AM	6:04 PM
Thursday	6:31 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	7:32 AM	7:36 PM
Saturday	8:33 AM	8:24 PM
Sunday	9:34 AM	9:14 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
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Subway donates $2,500 to Eucon scholarship program

For three years now, Subway Investments has been a committed partner of Eucon International School in furtherance of its scholarship program.

Recently, Subway Investments extended a donation of $2500 to Eucon and it has been partnering with the school in providing healthy lunches.

Dr. Christian Wei, president of Eucon International School, accepted the donation. He said, "We are very grateful to Subway for this donation. This will help our students. Hopefully, we could get more students."

Stella Fong, vice president, Transpacific International Inc., said, "We take pride in partnering with educational institutions that help students grow into becoming reliable and productive members of the community."

Fong added it has been the major thrust of the Transpac group to actively discharge its social responsibility and be a catalyst of change in the community where it does business.

Maintaining its commitment to supporting educational programs, Subway Investments, a company under Transpacific International Inc., makes a $2,500 donation to Eucon International College. Subway executives hand the donation to Dr. Wei. From left, Stella T. Fong, vice president, Transpacific International Inc. and vice president, Subway Investments Corp., Gary Schiff, director of business development, Ricardo Bibares, director of operations for Guam and Saipan, both of Subway Investments Inc. and Dr. Christian Wei, president, Eucon International School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

She said, "In all the communities where we do business, education is a priority for our group. Saipan is no different and we are proud to support Eucon in their educational mission."

Subway Investments Corp., a company under TII, operates Subway Restaurants in Saipan and Guam. Additionally, Subway offers a school lunch program that serves healthy sandwiches to students of various schools. Subway has been actively contributing to local schools with previous donations. ***(PR)***

Immanuel United Methodists invites all to International Peace Day celebrations

The Immanuel United Methodist Church is inviting Saipan residents to their church in Chalan Kanoa for three International Peace Day celebrations that will be held on Sept. 12, 19, and 21.

Fun and educational peace games are planned for the Sept. 12 and 19 events, both Sundays, from noon to 2pm. Making peace cranes, peace balloons, peace thumpatrops, peace banner, building a peace wall, and peace face painting are among the many activities. All games will emphasize peace, sharing and friendship.

Those who wish a peace symbol painted on their face with allergic-free paint may have one. Creating your own small peace snack is part of the celebrations. All are free.

Everyone is invited to again gather at IUMC on International Peace Day, Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 7pm to 7:30pm for a Candlelight Peace Vigil.

"The vigil and all events and activities are non-political, non-religious, not against any specific war—only emphasizing peace—which we think most of the world so hopes for," said IUMC's Pastor Millie Carroll. "The candlelight vigil will include famous short peace readings from various parts of the world and singing."

Saipan's International Peace Day candlelight peace vigil on Sept. 21 will be part of many others around the world, Carroll said.

The Day of Peace was established by the United Nations in 1981 at the opening of the UN sessions. Present UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has said this year's International Day of Peace is extra significant because it comes at the same time as the world's largest anti-poverty campaign meeting. That summit of many world leaders will also be held at the United Nations.

Earlier this year, the Secretary General called on young people around the world to take a stand for peace, to submit their stories and actions for peace to the United Nations. Fourteen year-old Mary Deala said "Building the peace wall on Sept. 12th and 19th will give our Saipan youth, children, and adults the chance to be included. A photo of the messages on our peace wall will be sent to the United Nations."

All of Saipan is invited to the free peace games and activities Sundays, Sept. 12 and 19, from noon to 2pm, and the peace vigil on Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 7pm to 7:30pm.

Immanuel United Methodist Church in Chalan Kanoa is on Chalan Kanoa Drive and Barbara Avenue (east of Town Center and Beach Road, near Mt. Carmel Cathedral.) For further information, contact Millie Carroll at 322-6158.

"This candlelight peace vigil on Sept. 21st will join with many others around the world similarly celebrating International Peace Day," Carroll said. ***(PR)***

From left, Immanuel United Methodist Church youth Serafina Rogoyawa, Grace Doton, and Mary Deala tie the banner inviting all of Saipan to their church's International Peace Day celebrations.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greeting to Bryan Gil Chan, who is celebrating his special day today, Sept. 8, 2010! Greetings come from your Chan family!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy birthday greetings go out to Gil Cabalu, who is celebrating his birthday today, Sept. 8, 2010. Greetings come from your Joeten Ace Hardware family!

Northern Marianas College

Procurement & Property Management Office

P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu, Website: www.nmcnet.edu

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION
RFQ 10-006

Academic Program and Services

Northern Marianas College is soliciting quotation for the services of a qualified consultant on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Tuesday (September 07, 2010) to Friday between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

This procurement is federally funded so in accordance to P.L 15-95 as amended by P.L 15-118, local preference does not apply.

Quotations are due no later than 4:00 p.m., September 10, 2010, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. You may request a copy of the RFP via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all quotations for any reason and waive any defect in said quotations, or cancel in part or its entirety this RFQ, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

This project is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. All provisions apply.

Approved by the following:

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/s/ Lorraine T Cabrera
Interim President

BRUCE L. MAILMAN
CNMI Bar Assn #F0153
MAILMAN & KARA, LLC
PMB 238, Box 10,000
Saipan, MP 96950-8900
Telephone: 233-0081
Facsimile: 233-0090

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
LPP MORTGAGE, LTD.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

LPP MORTGAGE, ltd., Plaintiff, -v- JOSE R. CAMACHO, MARIA A. CAMACHO, GARIZALDE P. DESAMITO, and LINDA SUSAN C. DESAMITO, Defendant.	)))))))))	CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0351 **NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court on July 7, 2010, in this matter, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of defendants Jose R. Camacho and Maria A. Camacho in and to the following real property located at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot No. 002 G 242, containing an area of 975 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1989, filed at the office of the Commonwealth Recorder on May 14, 1990, as File No. 90-1904.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on September 20, 2010, at the hour of 3:30 p.m., at the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale.

a. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

b. Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

c. Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

d. Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale.

a. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the plaintiff, in care of Mailman & Kara, LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

b. Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

c. Court Approval. Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is sought, and if and when it is granted.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 30th day of August, 2010:

/s/ RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctioneer

Business

Delta upbeat on Japan business amid strong yen

TOKYO (AP)—Delta is upbeat about its business in Japan as new routes and the surging yen boost travel and help along the recovery in the industry, a top executive said Thursday.

Delta, the world's biggest airline, is investing more than $1 billion in its global operations through 2013, and the robust results from its Japan business underline the soundness of such investments, Delta Air Lines President Edward Bastian told reporters at a Tokyo hotel.

"Our goal in Asia is to be the carrier of choice for both Asian as well as American customers," he said. "We have seen significant improvement in our outbound travel."

The strengthening yen, which has battered Japanese exporters, is a major blessing for Delta as it reaps the benefit of increased travel by Japanese whose spending power has jumped and are flying in droves to spots like Guam, Hawaii and Saipan.

Delta has seen its Asian revenue climb 30 percent year-on-year in the latest quarter, largely because of the yen's rise, and Delta is seeing strong results in July and August as well, Bastian said.

"It has been an important contribution to the recovery," he said.

The dollar recently hit a 15-year low against the yen and continues to trade near the 84 yen level.

Bastian said Delta sees Japan and Asia as key parts of its global business, and Delta's recent strong financial performance puts it in a good position to grow in the region.

▶ Delta Air Lines President Edward Bastian speaks during a press conference in Tokyo Thursday, Sept. 2, 2010. AP

Timing in and timing out

By FRANK GIBSON
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Question: Our policy is to give our employees a five-minute grace period both before and after the starting/ending time. If it goes beyond this grace period, then the reported time worked will be different than the scheduled eight hours. Is there any problem with this policy?

Even though this sounds like a simple yes or no matter—and the answer is "yes" there is a problem—it gets complicated to explain why. The simple answer is, if you can record it, pay it.

The matter of hours worked and paid is enforced by the Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Department of Labor's under the Fair Labor Standards Act. This law requires that employers keep records on wages, hours and other items specified in the regulations. An employer must count as hours worked any part, however small, of an employee's fixed or regular working time or other identifiable periods of time that an employee is regularly required to spend on assigned duties.

Now here is where it starts to get tricky. The USDOL recognizes that, when using a time clock, not everyone can time in/out exactly at the start or end of any work session. This brief amount of time spent around the clock does not have to be compensated. Similarly, a few seconds or minutes of work that occur infrequently and irregularly in the closing up process may sometimes not be recorded or paid. Upon review by USDOL these few minutes might fall under the Latin term *de minimis* which is a legal doctrine in which the law does not concern itself with trivial matters. For us non-legal types, the problem is in determining what might be a *de minimis* amount of time that can be safely ignored.

Guidance from USDOL states that the *de minimis* rule "applies only where there are uncertain and indefinite periods of time involved, a few seconds or minutes in duration, and where the *failure to count such time* is justified by industrial realities. " It then goes on to immediately add that "an employer may not arbitrarily fail to count any part, however small, of working time that can be practically ascertained." I don't know about you, but that confused me.

And because it confused me, I discussed it with the USDOL and found that they viewed *de minimis* time looking backward at time worked *outside of the recorded time that was not paid*. If they audit, they will look at how often a failure to pay occurred and how much cumulative time was lost over a long period of time. Now, let's be realistic. On Saipan, there are few, if any, large crowds of employees fighting to time in or time out, and the time clocks are not long distances from the employee's workplace as it might be in a large industrial setting. The time in and out is, in most cases, close enough to the work start or end time that it can be used without alteration as the time worked. Time spent off-the-clock putting on and taking off uniforms or cleaning equipment would be an issue, but I won't discuss that here. Simply, calculation of and use of the exact time worked, or the rounding of the exact time, as explained below, provides the most accurate basis for payment. Recorded work time is not *de minimis*.

I assume that the five-minute "Grace Period" means that if an employee starts five minutes early or late, that variance is not recorded and the standard shift is paid. Employers can ignore and pay a tardy if they choose. However, they cannot ignore and not pay additional work without violating the FLSA. USDOL guidance states that "an employer may not arbitrarily fail to count any part, however small, of working time that can be practically ascertained." Five minutes of work time not counted each day could be a rounded half hour of work in a week, 26 hours in a year. If it is five minutes before and after each work session that could be 20 minutes per day, over 1 ½ hours per week. Neither of these possibilities would be considered insignificant and if the "Grace Period" system cannot guarantee that it would average out equally or to the benefit of the employee, it is not an acceptable policy. It is better to record and pay the exact time worked. The USDOL works under the philosophy that if work time can be measured and recorded, it should be paid.

Most timekeeping systems, automated or manual, round the time recorded. The USDOL recognizes the need by most payroll systems for rounding and accepts rounding to the nearest five, 10, or 15 minutes. Rounding to larger periods of time, like the nearest half hour or hour, is not acceptable as the amounts of time lost might not be insignificant.

Rounding is only acceptable if, when averaged out over a period of time, it compensates the employee an amount equal to all the time the employee has actually worked. If there is any advantage gained by rounding, it must be to the employee.

There will be less variance if the exact time worked, after adjustment for any documented late timing out is made, is accumulated and rounded one time at the end of the week. If you take the case of the extreme variance in rounding to the nearest 15 minutes after each work session (10 in a week) to the nearest quarter-hour, the difference could be significant. If the variance each time was up to seven minutes extra time, rounded down to zero, it could be up to 70 minutes, more than an hour of pay lost in a week. If the actual time worked is rounded once at the end of the week, the variance would be a maximum of seven minutes—a variance much easier to defend, if it averages out to no lost time to the employee, over a period of time.

Last words—in dealing with variances in time from the standard work day or week remember that the employee must be compensated for any time spent performing work for the employer, and—always document unpaid variances.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only. Readers should obtain professional advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding human resource issues to hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com or editor@saipantribune.com.

HR MATTERS

By FRANK GIBSON
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Frank L. Gibson, SPHR, GPHR, owner of HR Support, CNMI, has been a resident of the CNMI for more than 14 years. One of the founding members of the CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, he has worked both as a line-manager of human resources and in the Human Resource Office.

Personnel record keeping, EEOC seminar set today

The Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter and the Saipan Chamber of Commerce have teamed up with Carlsmith Ball, LLP to offer an essential seminar on "The Legal Aspects of Personnel Record Keeping and EEO Compliance," which will be presented by attorneys Marcia Schultz and Vincent Seman of the Carlsmith Ball law firm.

This half-day seminar will be held at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret today, Sept. 8, 2010, from 9am to 12pm, with lunch to follow.

Are you doing a good job keeping all employee records in one place, including medical records and I-9 forms? Think again: certain confidential records must be secured separately from an employee's general personnel file. You say that you are a small business owner and you only hire residents so you haven't been using an I-9 form? Whoops—the I-9 form is required for all new employees, both resident and nonresident. Thinking of throwing out personnel files once they are 10 years old? If you do, you may run afoul of the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009. Do you throw away applications of individuals whom you don't hire when a position is open? Ouch! That could lead you to a courtroom if an applicant later files a case against you for not hiring them. Do you know how to tell if you are discriminating? Unintentional discrimination is illegal too. Learn the different ways an employee can prove discrimination and how to spot and fix problems before an employee sues. These are just some of the many common errors and misconceptions about the legal aspects of personnel record keeping and EEO compliance that will be presented at this seminar. The training could help you stay out of the courtroom and avoid hefty penalties for violating federal laws since you won't be able to claim ignorance as your defense.

The cost of the seminar (including lunch and handouts) is $25 for individuals who are a member of either SHRM CNMI or the Saipan Chamber of Commerce and $35 for individuals who are not a member of either organization. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat now by contacting Janice Tenorio at 233-7150 or e-mailing her at coordinator@saipanchamber.com. ***(PR)***

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
10,447.93	1,104.51	2,233.75
+127.83	+14.41	+0.00
+1.24%	+1.32%	+0.00%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.0907	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7654	Philippine Peso	44.38
British Pound	0.6489	Indian Rupee	46.545	Singapore Dollar	1.3454
Canadian Dollar	1.0348	Indonesian Rupiah	8,998.75	South Korean Won	1,170.45
Chinese Yuan	6.7877	Japanese Yen	84.195	Swiss Franc	1.0121
Euro	0.7764	Malaysian Ringgit	3.1173	Taiwan Dollar	31.881
		New Zealand Dollar	1.3833	Thailand Baht	31.155

Nation

Little Rock 9 member Jefferson Thomas dies in Ohio

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)—Jefferson Thomas was fast and athletic and often played pickup basketball with white students while growing up in Little Rock in the 1950s.

But when Thomas became one of nine black students to integrate Arkansas' largest high school, many of his basketball buddies weren't happy to see him in their classes.

"One of them said, 'Well I don't mind playing basketball or football with you or anything. You guys are good at sports. Everybody knows that, but you're just not smart enough to sit next to me in the classroom,'" Thomas recalled years later.

The pioneer in school desegregation died Sunday at an extended-care living facility in Columbus, Ohio, of pancreatic cancer at age 67, according to Carlotta Walls LaNier, who also enrolled at Central High School in 1957 and is president of the Little Rock Nine Foundation.

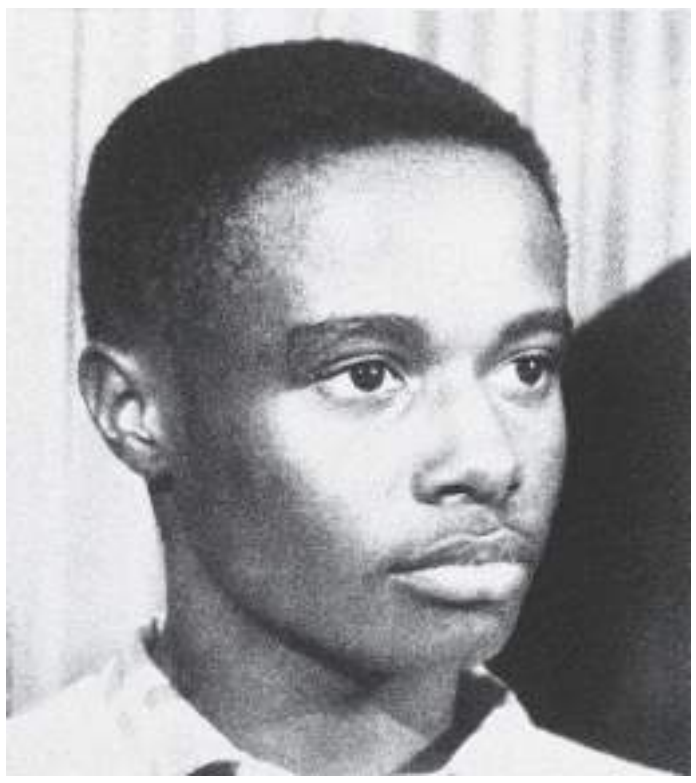
The integration fight was a first real test of the federal government's resolve to enforce a 1954 Supreme Court order outlawing racial segregation in the nation's public schools. After Gov. Orval Faubus sent National Guard troops to block Thomas and eight other students from entering the school, President Dwight Eisenhower ordered in the Army's 101st Airborne Division.

Soldiers stood in the school halls and escorted the students as they went from classroom to classroom.

Each of the Little Rock Nine received Congressional Gold Medals shortly after the 40th anniversary of their enrollment. President Bill Clinton presented the medals in 1999 to Thomas, LaNier, Melba Patillo Beals, Minnijean Brown Trickey, Elizabeth Eckford, Ernest Green, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Terrence Roberts and Thelma Mothershed Wair.

Clinton issued a statement Monday, calling Thomas "a true hero, a fine public servant, and profoundly good man."

"Jefferson and I had a long visit when he came to my Presidential Center for the 50th anniversary in 2007, and I was struck again by his quiet dignity and kindness. America is a stronger, more diverse, and more tolerant nation because of the life he lived and the sacrifices he made," Clinton said.



AP

Jefferson Thomas in 1957, one of nine African American who integrated Little Rock Central High School while federal troops patrolled the campus, is seen in an 1957 file photo.

In 2008, then President-elect Barack Obama sent Thomas and other members of the Little Rock Nine special invitations to his inauguration as the nation's first black president. During his campaign, he had said the Little Rock Nine's courage in desegregating Central High helped make the opportunities in his life possible.

"Even at such a young age, he had the courage to risk his own safety, to defy a governor and a mob, and to walk proudly into that school even though it would have been far easier to give up and turn back," Obama said in a statement Monday. "Our nation owes Mr. Thomas a debt of gratitude for the stand he took half a century ago, and the leadership he showed in the decades since."

Thomas played a number of sports and was on the track team in junior high school. Beals said he was nicknamed "Roadrunner, because he was so fast. You could sometimes avoid danger by running fast."

She said by phone from her home in California that Thomas always seemed to bring a light moment to the crisis.

AP

President Barack Obama waves to media as he walks across the South Lawn of the White House after stepping off of Marine One in Washington, Sunday, Sept. 5, 2010.

Obama assails GOP, promotes new jobs program

MILWAUKEE (AP)—A combative President Barack Obama rolled out a long-term jobs program Monday that would exceed $50 billion to rebuild roads, railways and runways, and coupled it with a blunt campaign-season assault on Republicans for causing Americans' hard economic times.

GOP leaders instantly assailed Obama's proposal as an ineffective one that would simply raise already excessive federal spending. Many congressional Democrats are also likely to be reluctant to boost expenditures and increase federal deficits just weeks before elections that will determine control of Congress.

Jim Manley, spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada, cautioned, "If we are going to get anything done, Republican cooperation, which has been all but non-existent recently, will be necessary."

That left the plan with low, if not impossible, odds of becoming law this year. When Congress returns from summer recess in mid-September, it is likely to remain in session for only a few weeks before lawmakers return home to campaign for re-election.

Administration officials said that even if Congress quickly approved the program, it would not produce jobs until sometime next year. That means the proposal's only pre-election impact may be a political one as the White House tries to demonstrate to voters that it is working to boost the economy and create jobs.

At a Labor Day speech in Milwaukee, Obama said Republicans are betting that between now and the Nov. 2 elections, Americans will forget the Republican economic policies that led to the recession. He said Republicans have opposed virtually everything he has done to help the economy, and have proposed solutions that have only made the problem worse.

"That philosophy didn't work out so well for middle-class families all across America," Obama told a cheering crowd at a labor gathering. "It didn't work out so well for our country. All it did was rack up record deficits and result in the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression."

He said Repubicans have consistently opposed his economic proposals and seem to be running on a slogan of "No, we can't," playing off his 2008 presidential campaign mantra of "Yes we can."

"If I said fish live in the sea, they'd say no," Obama said.

Republicans made clear that Obama should not expect any help from them.

Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell of Kentucky said the plan "should be met with justifiable skepticism."

Authorities: 1,000 homes evacuated in Colo. fire

DENVER (AP)—A wind-driven wildfire in the rugged Colorado foothills spread across 5 1/2 square miles Monday, destroying an unknown number of homes and triggering the evacuation of 1,000 others, authorities said.

No injuries have been reported.

Authorities didn't immediately know how many structures burned down. But at least some were houses, including four that belonged to firefighters battling the blaze, said Laura McConnell, a spokeswoman for the fire management team.

Video from KUSA-TV showed at least one home engulfed in flames.

The fire started Monday morning in Four Mile Canyon northwest of Boulder, and erratic winds gusting to 45 mph spread the flames quickly, sometimes in two directions at once.

About 100 firefighters were on the scene, and the winds calmed enough by late afternoon that three aerial tankers could start dropping fire retardant before darkness.

Some crews remained at the fire through the night. Four more aerial tankers were requested to join the fight Tuesday morning.

At least a half-dozen roads in the area were closed, and a billowing, white plume of heavy smoke was visible for miles before sunset. County health officials advised residents to stay indoors if the smoky air became irritating.

The fire's cause was unknown. Officials said it was too early to say how much, if any, of the fire was contained.

Boulder County sheriff's Cmdr. Rick Brough said the fire moved quickly through difficult country.

"It's very rocky, hilly, mountainous terrain," he said.

One fire vehicle was destroyed in the blaze.

Imam behind NYC mosque back in US

NEW YORK (AP)—An imam who has become the public face of a proposed Islamic community center and mosque near ground zero has returned to the United States following a taxpayer-funded tour of the Middle East, his wife said Monday.

Daisy Khan said her husband, Feisal Abdul Rauf, planned to comment later this week on plans for a $100 million center that has led to an increasingly vitriolic national debate over religious freedom and the sensitivities of Sept. 11 families. She said they would have no further comments until then.

Khan, who has been a supporter of the project and leads an interfaith center with her husband, said Rauf returned Sunday from a 15-day trip to promote religious tolerance in the Gulf. The trip, paid for by the U.S. Department of State, began Aug. 19 in Bahrain and included visits to Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

During Rauf's trip, he rarely spoke about the debate over the Muslim center's planned location, just blocks north of where Islamic extremists destroyed the World Trade Center and killed nearly 2,800 people on Sept. 11, 2001. Opponents say the mosque should be moved farther away, while supporters say religious freedom should be protected.

ACROSS THE NATION

Police arrest man who scaled San Francisco tower

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—San Francisco police have arrested a man who scaled the exterior of a 58-story downtown skyscraper and unfurled an American flag at the top. Police tell KCBS Radio that the man is veteran skyscraper climber Dan Goodwin. The 54-year-old Lake Tahoe resident's other climbing credits include Chicago's Sears Tower. Goodwin used suction cups but no ropes to scale Millennium Tower, a 645-foot residential building overlooking San Francisco Bay. Police say he ignored orders to stop climbing.

Plane crash on NV street kills 1, injures 3

HENDERSON, Nev. (AP)—A small plane crashed and burst into flames on a street in a southern Nevada residential neighborhood Monday, killing one person and badly injuring three others, authorities said. Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Sgt. John Sheahan said two males and two females were aboard the single-engine Piper Cherokee when it crashed in Henderson, just south of Las Vegas. He said it was a miracle no one on the ground was injured. "I think we can attribute that to the pilot trying to put it down in a safe place," he said. "You're talking the plane crashed maybe 20 or 30 feet (from the nearest home)."

Floating cooler saves man after boat capsizes

PRESQUE ISLE TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—The U.S. Coast Guard says a floating cooler helped save a man whose boat capsized in Lake Huron in northern Michigan. The Coast Guard says the 46-year-old man didn't have a life jacket when his boat overturned Monday morning off Presque Isle County's Presque Isle Township, about 200 miles north of Detroit. The agency says the man survived in the 60-degree water by clinging to a cooler. Another man on the boat swam to shore and called for help. A Coast Guard boat found the man about 2 p.m. He was suffering from hypothermia and was taken to a hospital for observation. The agency did not release the man's name or hometown.

Asia

Pakistanis suspect landowners of diverting floods

SUKKUR, Pakistan (AP)—As the disastrous floods recede in Pakistan, something new is rising: suspicions and rumors that powerful officials and landowners used their influence to divert water away from their property and inundate the villages and fields of millions of poor Pakistanis.

The claims are difficult to verify and in some cases may be exaggerated. Yet they have spread like wildfire across the waterlogged countryside, further outraging many flood victims already upset at the government's failure to provide enough food, clean water and shelter.

One of the risks is that Islamist militants could seize on growing anger to increase support for their war against the state. Even before the floods, many Pakistanis harbored a deep mistrust toward their government and the landowning elite.

"The politicians and the rich and powerful just sacrificed the people," said 30-year-old farmer Mohammed Yousuf, who lost his home and 11 cattle last month when floodwaters surging down the Indus River swept across southern Sindh province.

The floods, which were triggered by extremely heavy monsoon rains in the northwest at the end of July, have killed more than 1,600 people across Pakistan and affected some 17 million others. At its peak, the flood covered one-fifth of the country—an area larger than England.

Many people suspect powerful Pakistanis were able to manipulate the flow of water by influencing which levees were breached. Levees are tall dirt and rock embankments meant to prevent a river from overflowing and can be intentionally breached using explosives or heavy machinery.

It was impossible to verify the validity of the different accusations, but it was clear that many of the allegations were being leveled at the powerful by the largely powerless.

Outrage has been especially pronounced in northern Sindh where hundreds of thousands of people—including Yousuf—watched floods swamp their fields and destroy their homes as the lands of a federal minister on the opposite side of the Indus remained dry.

Many of these flood victims are convinced Labor Minister Khursheed Shah pushed the government to deliberately breach a levee upriver to save his property. The water that surged through the Tori Bund levee inundated dozens of villages and towns west of the river, an area that is more densely populated than the eastern side, where Shah's lands are located.

Indonesian volcano erupts again; strongest one yet

TANAH KARO, Indonesia (AP)—An Indonesian volcano shot black ash three miles (5,000 meters) into the air early Tuesday—its most powerful eruption since springing back to life after four centuries of dormancy.

The force of Mount Sinabung's explosion could be felt five miles (eight kilometers) away.

"This one was really terrifying," said Anissa Siregar, 30, as she and her two sleepy children arrived by truck at an emergency shelter near the base, adding that the whole mountain shook violently for at least three minutes. "It just keeps getting worse."

The volcano in North Sumatra province erupted last week for the first time since 1600, catching many scientists off guard. With more than 129 active volcanoes to watch, local vulcanologists had failed to monitor it for rising magma, slight uplifts in land and other signs of seismic activity.

There are fears that current activity could foreshadow a much more destructive explosion in the next few weeks or months, though it is possible, too, that the mountain will go back to sleep after letting off steam.

More than 30,000 people living along the volcano's fertile slopes have been relocated to cramped refugee camps, mosques and churches in nearby villages.

But some—like Siregar, the mother who fled with her children—have insisted on returning to the danger zone to check on their homes and their dust covered crops.

The government sent trucks to the mountain before Tuesday's eruption to help carry them back to safety.

Surono, who heads the nation's volcano alert center, said intensity at the mountain is clearly increasing.

There were more than 80 volcanic earthquakes in the 24-hour lead up to the blast, compared to 50 on Friday, when ash and debris shot nearly two miles (3,000 meters) into the air.

The eruption early Tuesday occurred just after midnight during a torrential downpour. Witnesses said volcanic ash and mud oozed down the mountain's slopes, flooding into abandoned homes.

Indonesia is a seismically charged region because of its location on the so-called "Ring of Fire"—a series of fault lines stretching from the Western Hemisphere through Japan and Southeast Asia.

ASIAN BRIEFS

RP legislator delays plea in HK drug case

HONG KONG (AP)—A Philippine legislator who was allegedly caught with cocaine at the Hong Kong airport in July asked a court Tuesday for more time to consider his plea on drug trafficking charges. Hong Kong District Judge Kevin Browne agreed to adjourn the case of Philippine Rep. Ronald Singson to Oct. 19 and extend the lawmaker's bail. Singson earlier posted 2 million Hong Kong dollars ($260,000) in bail and was ordered to surrender his passport and other travel documents. Singson's lawyer, John Reading, said in court that his client is undergoing medical treatment and evaluation. Neither he nor Singson would reveal the medical condition after the court session. The 41-year-old politician is accused of trafficking 0.24 ounces (6.67 grams) of cocaine. Authorities say that two tablets of diazepam, the generic form of Valium, were also found on him.

RP asks court to outlaw Abu Sayyaf

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine government has asked a court to outlaw the Abu Sayyaf as a terrorist group and blacklist more than 200 of its Islamic fighters blamed for two decades of bombings, kidnappings and beheadings, officials said Monday. The Justice Department recently lodged its petition against the al-Qaida-linked group with a trial court in southern Basilan province—the Abu Sayyaf's birthplace—in the first known government attempt to ban a rebel group under a 2007 anti-terrorism law. Abu Sayyaf members currently cannot be arrested unless they commit a crime.

Suicide attack in NW Pakistan kills 17 people

LAKKI MARWAT, Pakistan (AP)—A Taliban suicide bomber detonated a car in an alley behind a police station in a strategically important town in northwestern Pakistan on Monday, killing at least 17 police and civilians in an explosion that shattered the station and neighboring homes. About 40 people were wounded in the attack in Lakki Marwat, which sits on the main road between Punjab province, Pakistan's largest and most prosperous, and the North and South Waziristan tribal regions. A Pakistani army offensive pushed many militants out of South Waziristan in October. The militants still control much of North Waziristan, where U.S. drone aircraft have been conducting a campaign of targeted killings.

World

45 dead in Guatemala mudslides; more missing

AP

Rescue workers look for survivors at a mudslide area in Nahuala, western Guatemala, Sunday, Sept. 5, 2010.

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)—Searchers on Monday pulled five more bodies from a mud-covered highway where back-to-back landslides buried bus passengers and people trying to save them. Yet more mudslides raise Guatemala's official death toll to 45 after days of torrential rains.

Authorities said 25 people are confirmed dead and at least 15 are believed to be still buried beneath the debris in the village of Nahuala, where a first mudslide buried a bus and other vehicles, then a second one turned would-be rescuers into victims.

At least 20 others died over the weekend elsewhere as a tropical depression saturated the ground and set off more than a dozen landslides around the country, according to the national disaster agency. The most recent slide, on a highway in northern Guatemala, killed one person and injured 26 on Sunday.

In southern Guatemala, meanwhile, rescue workers used motorboats to reach about 100 families cut off by massive flooding in the town of Santa Ana Mixtan. Some residents sat on their roofs waiting to be evacuated, while others tried to drag bundles of their belongings through neck-deep water.

In Nahuala, emergency crews and villagers rushed to the Inter-American highway on Saturday, picks and shovels in hand, after radio reports of the deadly slide—only to be swamped by the second cascade of rock and earth.

Soldiers fire on family's car in Mexico, killing 2

MONTERREY, Mexico (AP)—Soldiers opened fire on a family's car at a military checkpoint in northern Mexico, killing a 15-year-old boy and his father, authorities and relatives said Monday.

It is at least the second time this year that a family has been caught up in a shooting involving Mexico's military, which has come under intense criticism for human rights abuses as soldiers fight brutal drug cartels.

Javier Trevino, Nuevo Leon state lieutenant governor, said soldiers apparently shot at the car when the driver failed to stop at the checkpoint Sunday on the highway connecting the northeastern city of Monterrey to Laredo, Texas.

But the boy's mother and uncle said the family had just passed a military convoy when the soldiers opened fire.

Patricia Castellanos, a 45-year-old tamale vendor, said they were returning to Monterrey after visiting her sister in the town of Salinas Victoria. Castellanos said she and her husband were traveling with their teenage son, their 24-year-old daughter, their son-in-law and their two grandchildren, ages 8 and 9.

The 15-year-old, Alejandro Leon, was shot in the head and back and died at the scene. Castellanos' husband, bricklayer Vicente Leon, was struck in the back and died at the hospital.

"I don't know how to explain the pain I'm feeling," said Castellanos, her eyes welling as she sat with her brother in her small home in a working-class neighborhood on the outskirts of Monterrey. "Because of a mistake, they suddenly ended my son's life and my husband's life."

WORLD BRIEFS

Tropical Storm Hermine crosses into Texas

MIAMI (AP)—Forecasters say Tropical Storm Hermine (hur-MEEN') has crossed into Texas. The U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami says the center of the storm has crossed the Rio Grande. Hermine came ashore Monday night in northeast Mexico. By early Tuesday, the National Hurricane Center said the storm was about 10 miles (15 km) south-southwest of Harlingen, Texas, and 20 miles (30 km) northwest of Brownsville. Hermine has maximum sustained winds of 60 mph (95 km). It's moving north-northwest at 14 mph (22 kph). A tropical storm warning is still in effect for Rio San Fernando, Mexico, north to Port O'Connor, Texas.

Lawyer: Iran woman could be stoned to death soon

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—The lawyer for an Iranian woman sentenced to be stoned on an adultery conviction said Monday that he and her children are worried the delayed execution could be carried out soon with the end of a moratorium on death sentences for the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. In an unusual turn in the case, the lawyer also confirmed that Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani was lashed 99 times last week in a separate punishment meted out because a British newspaper ran a picture of an unveiled woman mistakenly identified as her. Under Iran's clerical rule, women must cover their hair in public. The newspaper later apologized for the error. With the end of Ramadan this week, the mother of two could be executed "any moment," said her lawyer, Javid Houtan Kian.

Storm off Mozambique kills 15 fishermen

MAPUTO, Mozambique (AP)—Mozambican authorities say five fishing boats have capsized in a storm off the country's central coast, killing at least 15 fishermen. Maria Pinto, a Zambezia provincial official, said Sunday the fishermen ignored storm warnings from the weather service when they went out into the Indian Ocean Saturday night. She says five fishermen were rescued, and there were fears more bodies may be found.

Focus

Original Navajo Code Talker still tells his story

By FELICIA FONSECA
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ALBUQUERQUE (AP)—Tourists hurry inside a shop here to buy books about the famed Navajo Code Talkers, warriors who used their native language as their primary weapon.

Outside, on a walk sheltered from the sun, nine of the Code Talkers sit at a table autographing the books. Each is an old man now. They wear similar caps and shirts, the scarlet and gold of the Marine Corps, and turquoise jewlery.

One of these men, who signs his name as Cpl. Chester Nez, is distinguished from the others. Below his signature, he jots down why: 1st Original 29.

Before hundreds of Code Talkers were recruited from the Navajo Nation to join the elite unit, 29 Navajos were recruited to develop the code—based on the then-unwritten Navajo language—that would confound Japanese military cryptologists and help win World War II.

Of the Original 29, only three survive. Nez is one.

The Code Talkers took part in every assault the Marines conducted in the Pacific, sending thousands of messages without error on Japanese troop movements, battlefield tactics and other communications critical to the war's ultimate outcome.

"It's one of the greatest parts of history that we used our own native language during World War II," Nez said in an interview with The Associated Press. "We're very proud of it."

Nez tells the story succinctly. He is the last of the original group to be able to do so. One can hardly speak or hear and the memory of the third is severely tested by Alzheimer's disease.

The 89-year-old Nez is limited, too. He is in a wheelchair after diabetes led to the amputation of both legs. These days, he'd rather "just sit around, take it easy," he said.

As a boy, Nez lived in a traditional Navajo home and helped his family tend to sheep in Two Wells on the eastern side of the vast 27,000 square-mile (70,000 sq. kilometer) reservation.

He played with matchbox toy cars, went barefoot, and spoke only his native language. That changed when he was sent to one of the boarding schools set up by the federal government to assimilate American Indian children into the broader culture.

At boarding school, Nez said he had his mouth washed out with soap for speaking Navajo—ironic indeed, considering the vital role that the unique language—and Nez—would come to play.

Nez was in 10th grade when a Marine recruiter came looking for young Navajos who were fluent in Navajo and English to serve in World War II. He jumped at the chance to defend his country, and to leave boarding school. He kept the decision to enlist a secret from his family, and lied about his age, as did many others.

"I told my roommate, 'Let's try it out,' and that's what we did," Nez said. "One reason we joined is the uniform—they were so pretty, dress uniforms."

About 250 Navajos showed up at Fort Defiance, Arizona, then a U.S. Army base. But only 29 were selected to join the first all-Native American unit of Marines. They were inducted in May 1942.

AP

This Nov. 29, 2009 photo shows Navajo Code Talker Chester Nez looking at at an old photo with his grandson peering over his shoulder at their Albuquerque N.M. Only three of the Original 29 Code Talkers survive and Nez is one of them.

'When you're involved in the world of cryptology, you not only have to provide information, you have to protect that. And there's no better example than the Navajo Code Talkers during World War II.'

After basic training, the 382nd Platoon was tasked with developing the code.

There Nez met Allen Dale June and Lloyd Oliver, among the others. Using Navajo words for red soil, war chief, clan, braided hair, beads, ant and hummingbird, for example, they came up with a glossary of more than 200 terms, later expanded, and an alphabet.

At first, Nez said, the concern was whether or not the code could work. Then it proved inpenetrable. "The Japanese did everything in their power to break the code but they never did," he said.

Nez no longer remembers the code in its entirety, but easily switches from English to Navajo to repeat one instruction he delivered during fighting on Guadalcanal.

"I always remember this one," Nez said. "'Enemy machine gun on your right flank, destroy!'"

The Navajos trained in radio communications were walking copies of the code. Each message read aloud by a Code Talker was immediatley destroyed.

"When you're involved in the world of cryptology, you not only have to provide information, you have to protect that," said Patrick Weadon, curator of the National Cryptologic Museum. "And there's no better example than the Navajo Code Talkers during World War II."

The Code Talkers were constantly on the move, often from foxhole to foxhole. Nez had a close call in Guam with a sniper's bullet that whizzed past his head and struck a palm tree.

Once while running a message, Nez and his partner were mistaken for Japanese soldiers and were threatened at gunpoint until a Marine lieutenant cleared up the confusion, his son, Michael, said.

"Of course Dad couldn't tell them he was a Code Talker," Nez's son said.

The Code Talkers had orders not to discuss their roles—not during the war and not until their mission was declassified 23 years later.

In 2001 Nez, Dale and June traveled aboard the same plane to Washington, D.C., to receive the Congressional Gold Medal. The recognition, which they didn't receive returning home from war, propelled them to a sort of celebrity status, along with the release of a movie based on the Code Talkers the following year

They appeared on television, rode on floats in parades and were asked to speak to veterans groups and students.

Nez threw the opening pitch at a 2004 Major League Baseball game and blessed the presidential campaign of John Kerry. Oliver traveled with other Code Talkers as guests of honor in the nation's largest Veterans Day parade in New York last year.

When residents of Longmont, Colorado, heard that June and his wife did not have a permanent home, they raised money to buy one for the couple.

The last three survivors of the Original 29 don't live on the Navajo Nation, where they are celebrated with a tribal holiday. They wonder about each other, but it's unlikely they'll reunite again.

After World War II, Nez volunteered to serve two more years during the Korean War and retired in 1974 after a 25-year career as a painter at a Veterans hospital.

June, 88, has spent the past few weeks in and out of hospitals, and requires round-the-clock care. His third wife, Virginia, calls herself "the charm" and the protector of an endangered species.

She's a walking promotion for him and the Marine Corps, yet she's careful of how much she says because he thinks it is unwelcomed bragging.

Oliver's wife, Lucille, echoes similar sentiments about her husband. Oliver displayed few reminders in what, until earlier this year, was his home on the Yavapai Indian reservation in Camp Verde, Arizona—a few framed pictures, a Marine cap above his bedroom window and a U.S. flag above the doorway.

"He just put the past behind him, I guess," she says.

Oliver, 87, speaks audibly but his words are difficult to understand. His hearing is impaired and he prefers not to have a hearing aid.

Both June and Oliver had brothers who later served as Code Talkers.

Nez tells the tourists seeking autographs in Albuquerque that he's part of the Original 29, but few appear to grasp what that means.

"Most of them," he says of the tourists, "they just thank me for what we did."

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ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
LPP MORTGAGE, LTD.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

LPP MORTGAGE, ltd., Plaintiff, -v- ASCENSION L. ALEXANDER, Defendant.	))))))))	CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0349 **NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court on July 2, 2010, in this matter, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of defendant Ascension L. Alexander in and to the following real property located at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands:

LOT NO. 002 G 308, (MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS KAGMAN II, HOMESTEAD LOT NO. 002 G 308), containing an area of 1,071 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 002 G 07 dated May 31, 1989, and filed with the office of the Commonwealth Recorder on May 14, 1990 as file no. 90-1904.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on September 20, 2010, at the hour of 3:45 p.m., at the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale.

a. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

b. Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

c. Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

d. Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale.

a. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the plaintiff, in care of Mailman & Kara, LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

b. Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

c. Court Approval. Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is sought, and if and when it is granted.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 30th day of August, 2010:

/s/ RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctioneer

Campus Life

Best colleges are the ones whose graduates find jobs

By GAIL MARKSJARVIS
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Students can spend thousands of dollars on college after doing less comparison shopping than they would choosing a cell phone.

They go on a campus tour and like the tour guide. Or the clothes students are wearing on campus send a certain signal. Or TV ads promise that the small college down the road, or online, is friendly and will help you succeed.

But what most students are ultimately after when finishing college is a job, especially with the unemployment rate for college graduates soaring and the average student with education loans leaving school with more than $20,000 of debt. So one can't ignore the fact that college must lead to a job and a salary sizable enough to cover loans and put food on the table.

That's why a recent report by the U.S. Department of Education could be a valuable starting point for students trying to figure out if a college might get them to where they need to end up.

That report, which focuses on what is called "gainful employment," shows that almost half of students that have finished college or quit over the past four years have not been making monthly federal student loan payments as required. And the findings hint at why: Students often haven't found jobs that pay enough to cover their loans and living expenses.

Ironically, the worst results are the for-profit schools that advertise on billboards and TV specifically to people who might be looking for a job that will finally give them a chance at a better life. These schools offer short-term programs ranging from cosmetology to various types of technicians, and among the for-profits are DeVry, Strayer, Phoenix and Capella. While some of the schools dispute the findings, the government found that only 36.4 percent of people who attended the for-profit schools are repaying their loans in full each month. Some payment rates are 20 percent.

But public universities and private colleges, in general, haven't had an admirable record either. Mark Kantrowitz, publisher of Finaid.com and Fastweb.com, notes that only 53.7 percent of people who have graduated or left public colleges and universities are paying as expected. The record of community colleges is almost as bad as the for-profit degree programs, he said. And 56 percent of the people that attended private colleges are paying as required.

The results are here: http://finaid.org/repaymentrates, with more detail here: http://tinyurl.com/28fjo3j/.

Students can go through the list to find the repayment rate at colleges of interest. Also consider loan default rates using this tool: http://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/. That shows you what percentage of former students aren't paying loans.

While the lists are valuable for eyeballing prospects at certain schools, the method isn't perfect, Kantrowitz said. For-profit schools, he said, often attract students struggling financially, so the high level of loan-payment troubles might be a result of financial issues apart from their education. Also, because some schools do not have rigorous requirements for admission, students might lack the background to succeed. Kantrowitz said the same issues might be a drag on students at community colleges and other less selective public and private institutions.

Still, students need to be aware of quirks related to specific degrees. Kantrowitz noted that only 24.4 percent of Harvard Medical School graduates are repaying their loans. But that's because they defer payments during internships and residency, and will likely pay in full once they complete those requirements.

As a tool, the list provides a relative look at institutions, Kantrowitz said. "If you are looking at two schools, and one has a good repayment rate and one not, consider the one with a good repayment rate. And be skeptical of any under 25 percent."

Also useful are the criteria the Department of Education used to see if students were too burdened by college loans from certain institutions. The DOE wants to see a student's monthly debt payments after college be 8 percent or less of their monthly income and 20 percent or less of their discretionary income, or what's left after paying for essentials like rent and food.

Sandy Baum, an economist and education policy analyst for the College Board, urges students to consider potential earnings before selecting a college and area of study. On average, she said, students can afford to devote 10 percent of their monthly pay to college loan payments, but if pay is very low, loans should also be limited. For a rough idea of pay levels, go to http://salary.com/salary/index.asp.

Gail MarksJarvis is a personal finance columnist for the Chicago Tribune *and author of* Saving for Retirement Without Living Like a Pauper or Winning the Lottery. *Readers may send her e-mail at gmarksjarvis@tribune.com.*

AP
Robin Keyser, top, looks for advice on her resume while attending a job fair in Southfield, Mich., Wednesday, Aug. 25, 2010.

Future hiring will mainly benefit the high-skilled

NEW YORK (AP)—American workers faced a sobering reality as they celebrated the U.S. holiday of Labor Day at a time of high unemployment, scant hiring and a widespread loss of job security: economists foresee fewer moderately paid factory supervisors, postal workers and office administrators.

Not until 2014 or later is the United States expected to have regained all, or nearly all, the 8.4 million jobs lost to the recession. Millions of lost jobs in real estate, for example, aren't likely to be restored this decade, if ever.

On Friday, the government said the August unemployment rate ticked up to 9.6 percent. Not enough jobs were created to absorb the growing number of people seeking work. The unemployment rate has exceeded 9 percent for 16 months, the longest such stretch in nearly 30 years.

The crisis poses a threat to President Barack Obama and Democrats in Congress, whose hold on the House of Representatives and Senate appears to be at increasing risk because of voter discontent.

Even when the job market picks up, many people will be left behind. The threat stems, in part, from the economy's continuing shift from one driven by manufacturing to one fueled by service industries.

Pay for future service-sector jobs will tend to vary from very high to very low. At the same time, the number of middle-income service-sector jobs will shrink, according to government projections. Any job that can be automated or outsourced overseas is likely to continue to decline.

Associated Press Business Writers Christopher S. Rugaber and Michael Liedtke contributed to this report.

44 states to use new nationwide tests for students

LOS ANGELES—With a federal award of $330 million, 44 states joined Thursday to replace the much-maligned year-end English and math standardized tests with new nationwide tests that could better measure student learning and teacher performance.

Also Thursday, the Los Angeles Board of Education formally directed its superintendent, for the first time, to include student test score data as part of teachers' evaluations. That change would have to be negotiated with the teachers union.

The nationwide tests would be like nothing ever approached on such a scale: Smarter, computer-based exams, for example, would deliver harder or easier questions during the exam based on student responses. And the tests will strive to evaluate critical thinking, writing, researching and even listening skills.

Exams in math and English would be rolled out across the country in 44 participating states for the 2014-15 school year. When that happens, state tests that cost billions to produce would become obsolete. And years of data on how schools are progressing could also become meaningless going forward.

Those trade-offs are worth accepting, said U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, in order to achieve the goal of measuring student achievement aligned with common national academic standards, which most states have adopted this summer. In addition, he said, the system would save money in the long run because each state would no longer have to develop its own tests.

"This is going to change the way children are taught," Duncan said in a conference call with reporters. And, "most importantly, the way we support teachers." The new tests, he added, also will address the No. 1 complaint he's heard from teachers: that "bubble tests pressure teachers to teach to a test that doesn't measure what really matters." ***(Los Angeles Times)***

Life & Style

Discovering Seoul, one subway stop at a time

By JOHN M. GLIONNA
LOS ANGELES TIMES

SEOUL, South Korea—The question has popped into the minds of most subway commuters, only to vanish amid the chaos of the workaday rush: "What if I just got off here?"

But for Charles Usher, that idle thought launched an ambitious blog project to describe the intricacies of Seoul one subway stop at a time—all 477 of them. He wanted to pierce the prevailing urban sameness of his adopted hometown, areas dominated by high-rise apartments and chain outlets.

On a recent Sunday, he headed out to the byzantine subway system dressed in a white shirt with a colorful koi fish on one shoulder, cargo shorts and pink sneakers. Notebook in hand, he resembled a cross between tourist and bespectacled inspector.

Usher is utilitarian in choosing his subway stops: Each has an official number, a designation that starts with the line and then the sequential stops. He enters the digit range into a random numbers-generator program on his computer, going with what's chosen.

On this day, the number turns out to be 746: the Gasan Digital Complex station, the 46th stop on line 7.

For Usher, 28, a Wisconsin-born writer and magazine editor who teaches English here, Seoul's subway stops are doors to uncharted neighborhoods, strange lives and often-confounding architecture.

His blog, Seoul Sub-urban (www.seoulsuburban.com), aims to show the casual commuter how, rather than being maddeningly similar, many stations and their environs provide their own unique urban landscape.

JOHN M. GLIONNA/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

Charles Usher is a teacher from Wisconsin who has embarked on a blogging project to document the humanity and city life around select Seoul, South Korea, subway stations.

Residents of car-manic Los Angeles most often view their domains through the prism of freeway interchanges and exits, but in a compact city such as Seoul, the subway's far-reaching and well-traveled arteries serve as the geographic guideposts, he says.

Usher began the blog last year after returning to Seoul from a trip around Southeast Asia, this time pledging to himself to expand his knowledge of the city of 10 million people.

"It bugged me that I'd lived in Seoul for a year and hadn't seen that much of the city," he said. "Seoul has a good subway system, so it made perfect sense to use that to expand my haunts."

The blog, subtitled "Discovering Seoul, one subway stop at a time," contains impromptu postings in which the introspective Usher describes his amblings. "It's a big city," the site challenges. "Get on the train."

Near one station, Usher writes, he found "an old man on the sidewalk who had a machine that air-puffed rice to make bar snacks attached to the back of a motorcycle. Every so often it would emit a loud bang and scare any nearby dogs whose owners had taken them out for a walk."

He later encounters some abandoned houses and wanders about, letting his curiosity roam, "peeking through cracks and broken windows ... stepping through the occasional door that had been left open." He imagines the lives of former residents by the detritus left behind: "A bookshelf, a bike, a laundry basket, a dish rack, pillows and blankets, boots, a 'Dora the Explorer' videotape."

Usher's website lists brief biographies of himself and photographer Liz Groeschen, along with the local subway station of each. There are nuggets of information about the Seoul metro—that it's the world's third busiest, serving 6 million passengers a day, covering 400 miles along 20 lines.

Some stops are set among old-school Korean neighborhoods with markets and crowded alleyways. Others are more typical of the modern urban wasteland, dominated by ubiquitous skyscrapers. That's when the chronicling gets challenging.

"It forces you to look deeper," explains Groeschen, a freelance photographer who studied at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Family of heiress seeks guardian

NEW YORK (AP)—Two nieces and a nephew of the reclusive heiress of a Montana copper fortune are asking a Manhattan court to appoint a guardian to oversee the 104-year-old woman's personal and financial affairs.

The petition filed Friday also asks the court to bar Huguette Clark's attorney Wallace Bock and certified public accountant Irving Kamsler from visiting her, presenting her any legal documents, signing anything on her behalf or selling any of her property to "prevent the risk of further improper influence" by Bock and Kamsler "for their personal benefit rather than the benefit of Ms. Clark."

Clark has lived in New York hospitals for more than 20 years, and the petition said she currently lives at Beth Israel Hospital.

The Manhattan district attorney's office is looking into how Clark is being cared for and how her finances are being handled, two people familiar with the probe told The Associated Press last month. Bock and Kamsler have not been accused of any crime

MSNBC.com first reported the legal probe and the family members' petition, which asks a judge to appoint Fiduciary Trust Co. International as guardian.

Clark was born in 1906 in Paris to then 67-year-old U.S. Sen. William A. Clark, of Montana, and a 28-year-old Michigan woman named Anna Eugenia La Chapelle.

Years of mining copper in Montana made Clark the second-richest man in America, after the Rockefellers. Huguette Clark's fortune is believed worth half a billion dollars.

The petition filed by Ian Devine and Carla Hall Friedman of New York and Karine Albert McCall of Washington, D.C., says they are descendants of William Clark's three children from his first marriage and are among Huguette Clarke's closest living relatives.

It argues that if a guardian isn't appointed, "Ms. Clark is likely to suffer personal and financial harm because she remains at risk from her purported fiduciaries, Bock and Kamsler."

The petition alleges Bock and Kamsler have kept family members and others from visiting Clark by falsely claiming she does not want to see them; that Bock received $1.5 million from Clark to build a bomb shelter for a settlement in Israel where Bock's daughter lives; provided Beth Israel Hospital with false contact information for Clark's relatives and did not give the hospital information regarding her actual next of kin.

The petition also includes claims by a paralegal who worked for Bock who said Bock contacted her after the district attorney's probe became public and asked her not to discuss his dealings with Clark. The paralegal also said Bock and Kamsler drafted a will that would have left money to Bock, and that they repeatedly tried to get Clark to sign it.

Tony Blair cancels London appearance over protests

LONDON (AP)—Tony Blair on Monday canceled a planned public appearance in London to promote his new memoir over concerns about potential disruption from protesters.

The former British prime minister said he didn't "want the public to be inconvenienced by the inevitable hassle caused by protesters," during his appearance on Wednesday at Waterstone's bookstore in central London.

"I know the Metropolitan Police would, as ever, have done a superb job in managing any disruption, but I do not wish to impose an extra strain on police resources, simply for a book signing," Blair said in a statement.

Earlier, Blair told ITV television that a bookstore signing session could cause unnecessary "hassle and cost" for police. Protesters demonstrating against Blair's decision to join the 2003 U.S.-led invasion of Iraq hurled shoes and eggs at him in Dublin on Saturday.

Anti-war demonstrators had planned to rally outside Blair's signing, and he said he was also worried that the far right British National Party might attempt to cause trouble.

AP

A protester demonstrates outside Eason book store in Dublin, Ireland, as Irish police look on, Saturday, Sept. 4, 2010.

"You end up just causing a lot of hassle for people and cost when there are better things for the police to do and it's not as if we need to do it," said Blair, who added that the book was "selling fantastically."

"It is sad at the same time, frankly. If people want to have a book signed, people should protest but not try and physically prevent you doing it."

Waterstone's managing director Dominic Myers said the cancellation of the signing "is a matter of regret that because of the likely actions of a minority, our customers are now not able to meet a three-times elected prime minister of the United Kingdom, whose book has become our fastest-selling autobiography ever."

Death & Funeral Announcement

This is to inform family and friends of

Linda Angui Ada,

the wife of Manuel Sablan Ada (Aguas) has passed away on Thursday, September 2, 2010 at approximately 10:30 p.m.

Nightly rosary is being said at 7:00pm at Chalan Kanoa District 1 Social Hall.

Daily Mass is being offered at Mount Carmel Cathedral at 6:00 a.m.

On Friday, September 10, 2010 at 7:00 a.m. Our beloved will be escorted from the Commonwealth Health Center at 7:00 a.m. to the Sacred Heart Chapel, in Chalan Kanoa, District 1.

At 10:00 a.m. her mortal remains will be escorted from the Sacred Heart Chapel to the Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. immediately followed by interment service at the Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Thank You yan Si Yu'us Ma'ase
Ginen I Familia

Clooney's 'American' wins weekend with $16M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—George Clooney's hitman tale "The American" has captured the top spot at the box office with a $16.4 million debut over the long Labor Day weekend.

Since opening Wednesday, the Focus Features release has taken in $19.5 million.

The 20th Century Fox revenge romp "Machete" and Sony's heist thriller "Takers" were in a duel for second-place.

"Machete" led with $14 million from Friday to Monday. "Takers" followed with $13.5 million, though the two movies were close enough that rankings could change once final numbers are released Tuesday.

"Takers," which had been the No. 1 movie the previous weekend, raised its 10-day total to $40 million.

The weekend's other new wide release, Drew Barrymore's romance "Going the Distance" from Warner Bros., opened at No. 5 with $8.6 million.

It was a typically quiet Labor Day period for Hollywood, a transition weekend as summer blockbuster season ends and young audiences prepare for the start of the school year.

Hollywood closed its busiest season with record revenue of $4.35 billion, about $100 million more than the previous high set last summer, according to Hollywood.com, which tracks box office. Yet because of higher ticket prices, movie attendance slipped to about 552 million, the lowest since summer 2005, said Hollywood.com analyst Paul Dergarabedian.

"This is a perfectly unspectacular end to a perfectly unspectacular summer," Dergarabedian said. "If you look at how low the attendance figure dropped, that's the audience telling Hollywood this crop of movies was good, but not good enough to get us out in huge numbers."

AP

In this film publicity image released by Focus Features, George Clooney is shown in a scene from, "The American."

"The American" stars Clooney as a hitman who finds unlikely friendship and romance while trying to lay low in Italy before doing one last job.

"Machete" features a cast including Robert De Niro, Jessica Alba, Steven Seagal and Lindsay Lohan in a bloody tale of a former Mexican federal cop (Danny Trejo) taking on crooks, dirty politicians and thugs by the score.

"Going the Distance" stars Barrymore and Justin Long as a couple trying to maintain a coast-to-coast long-distance relationship.

With Clooney's appeal to adult audiences, "The American" dominated older crowds, while "Machete" was a hit with Hispanics, who accounted for 60 percent of the movie's viewers.

"The whole marketing campaign was thrust at the Latino audience, and they have clearly responded and embraced the movie," said Chris Aronson, head of distribution for 20th Century Fox. "I would go so far as to say Danny Trejo is the first Latino superhero."

With $3.9 million over the long weekend, Universal's animated hit "Despicable Me" raised its haul to $241.3 million, surpassing the $238.4 million take of DreamWorks Animation's "Shrek Forever After," which failed to catch the same box-office fire as the franchise's earlier installments.

Summer's top hit, Disney's animated blockbuster "Toy Story 3," pulled in $2.7 million to lift its total to $408.8 million, second only to "Shrek 2" at $436 million on the domestic chart for animated features.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Monday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Tuesday.

1. ***"The American,"*** $16.4 million.
2. ***"Machete,"*** $14 million.
3. ***"Takers,"*** $13.5 million.
4. ***"The Last Exorcism,"*** $8.8 million.
5. ***"Going the Distance,"*** $8.6 million.
6. ***"The Expendables,"*** $8.5 million.
7. ***"The Other Guys,"*** $6.7 million.
8. ***"Eat Pray Love,"*** $6.3 million.
9. ***"Inception,"*** $5.9 million.
10. ***"Nanny McPhee Returns,"*** $4.7 million.

Venice shows Affleck's film on Joaquin Phoenix

VENICE, Italy (AP)—A buzz preceded actor Casey Affleck's directorial debut, "I'm Still Here": Was the movie about brother-in-law Joaquin Phoenix's seemingly downward spiral from actor to hip-hop musician really a no-holds-barred documentary—or was it just a set up?

On Monday in Venice, where his film was screened out of competition at the Film Festival, Affleck said he's leaving the answer up to the audience.

"Elliptically, I would say ... I sincerely don't want to influence people's interpretation," Affleck told reporters. "I can tell you there is no hoax. It makes me think of 'Candid Camera' or something."

The film is full of dark, sometimes graphic scenes about the Academy Award-nominated Phoenix, whose decision to go for a music career and concurrent decline was fodder for late-night comics.

In one scene, Phoenix banters about the irony of his life being depicted in film, when he is trying to get away from the industry. The film follows Phoenix to his last acting and press events, where he grumbles that he "hates" acting.

"I think everyone at some point in their life hates their jobs and the people they are around," he says in opening scenes to explain why he wants to change his life despite his talent and enormous success, which includes an Oscar nomination for playing Johnny Cash in "Walk the Line."

What follows are scenes depicting his negative downturn. There's drug use, graphic language, the search for online sex, a meeting with a prostitute and other hard core scenes, such as of Phoenix attacking a spectator at his own concert.

Throughout the film, Phoenix gains weight and lets his hair and beard grow long and unkempt.

"I know that he is someone that doesn't shy away from letting me see all the different aspects of his personality and if he was willing to do it and I was willing to do it I owed it to him to make it as unflinching look at him as I possibly could," said Affleck, who recently starred in the film "The Killer Inside Me."

Affleck noted that Phoenix was in Venice and "not hiding from the movie."

The documentary includes scenes with well-known entertainers such as Ben Stiller and Sean "Diddy" Combs. Because it would be hard to film Combs and Stiller without their knowing participation, it has fed suspicions that at least some of the film was scripted.

In one scene, Stiller comes in to pitch a script to Phoenix that he turns down, while throughout the film Phoenix semi-obsessively pursues Combs for help in starting his career as a hip-hop performer.

At one point, a close friend of Phoenix who is part of the project is accused of turning on the production and informing an entertainment news outlet that Phoenix's decline is a big joke. That created a rift in the production.

Hoax or no hoax, Phoenix gives an all-out performance, which begs the question he asked himself at the beginning of the documentary: Is the actor playing a role or is a role playing the actor?

While the actor's narcissism is central to the project, the film stands as a portrait of an artist trying to break out of the jail of the same celebrity culture upon which he is dependent.

"When I watched the movie, I am not repulsed by him and I feel for him and I understand him better than I did at beginning of the movie. I have a lot of love for him," Affleck said.

AP

Actor Joaquin Phoenix leaves a restaurant at the 67th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, Monday, Sept. 6, 2010.

Bahamas drops charges in Travolta extortion case

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—A judge in the Bahamas dismissed charges Monday against two people accused of trying to extort money from John Travolta after the actor decided he no longer wanted to face the pain of a new trial stemming from the death of his teenage son on the island chain.

Prosecutor Neil Braithwaite had submitted a motion to drop the case just as a retrial was about to start for the two defendants.

"The Travolta family has said that this matter has caused them unbelievable stress and pain and they wish to put this whole thing behind them," Braithwaite told the court after a jury had been picked to hear the case.

Ambulance driver Tarino Lightbourne and his attorney, politician Pleasant Bridgewater, were accused of threatening to release private information about the January 2009 death of Travolta's 16-year-old son, Jett, at the family vacation home in Grand Bahama.

Lightbourne, who was among the medics who treated Jett, allegedly sought $25 million from the actor with the assistance of Bridgewater, who resigned her seat in the Bahamas Senate after she was charged in the case.

A judge declared a mistrial in October after a Bahamian lawmaker suggested the still-deliberating jury had acquitted one of the suspects.

Travolta had testified during that trial—describing how he desperately tried to save the life of his seizure-prone son—and his attorneys said in October that he was prepared to return to the stand if necessary. But the actor said Monday that the passage of time had changed his mind.

"The long-pending status of this matter continued to take a heavy emotional toll on my family, causing us to conclude that it was finally time to put this matter behind us," the actor said in a written statement. "Therefore, after much reflection I concluded that it was in my family's best interest for me not to voluntarily return to The Bahamas to testify a second time at trial."

Travolta thanked Bahamian authorities for their work on the case and said his cooperation had come at "great emotional cost to my family."

The defendants had mixed reactions to the dismissal. Bridgewater was relieved. "I'm just happy to be free and put this all behind me," she said outside court.

She later called the case against her the "greatest nightmare of my life" and said it forced her to resign to focus on her defense.

"I must add that I am deeply saddened that the Travoltas had to endure the pain at the loss of their son," Bridgewater said. "It is my prayer that they will be able to bring closure to this sad chapter in their lives and open a brand new one, filled with joy and peace."

But Lightbourne said he wanted a trial to prove his innocence. "I'm not totally satisfied," he said. "I wanted to have my name cleared.

Jett Travolta suffered a seizure and collapsed at the family's home. The actor testified that he performed CPR on the teen after a nanny alerted him and his wife, actress Kelly Preston. John Travolta told the court—apparently for the first time in public—that his 16-year-old son was autistic, confirming speculation that had swirled for years. The developmental disorder is frequently accompanied by seizures.

Vegas police defend Hilton's quick jail release

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Las Vegas police are defending Paris Hilton's quick release from jail after her Aug. 27 arrest on suspicion of cocaine possession, saying they wanted to avoid disruptions in the jail's operations.

Hilton was out of the jail in about three hours, roughly half the average time it takes to process people facing the same charge through the Clark County Detention Center, the Las Vegas Review-Journal reported.

Metropolitan Police Deputy Chief Jim Dixon, who runs the jail, acknowledged Hilton was pushed through the booking process to get her into a separate room and out of the jail as soon as possible.

He noted a crowd of about 100 people gathered outside the Wynn Las Vegas resort to snap photos and shoot video of Hilton while her boyfriend, Cy Waits, was pulled over and arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence.

"Yeah, she was treated differently so I don't have a disruption of my process here at the county jail," Dixon told the Review-Journal. "When you bring somebody in like that, everybody comes over and tries to look at them. I'd have officers attempting to keep inmates away from her. I'd have disruptions."

Hilton

Because of overcrowding, Hilton presented a major problem for jailers, Dixon added.

"She was moved along out of the general area and put in isolation where nobody can actually get to her. ... As soon as (her release on her own recognizance) was pushed through, she was kicked out," he said.

Jessica Murray of Bob's Bail Bonds said she was bothered by Hilton's rapid release. Murray, whose clients are mostly "working girls" arrested for nonviolent soliciting or trespassing, said the average booking time on those charges is four to 12 hours, followed by another four to 12 hours until release.

"I could understand putting her in a separate room. But I don't understand putting her above everyone else," Murray said. "If you're alleged to commit a crime, you get treated like everybody else."

But Tony Collins of 911 Bail Bonds said he understood why Hilton was treated differently.

"If she had gotten out in 30 minutes, that would have been special treatment," he said.

Hilton, 29, was charged with one felony count of cocaine possession after authorities say she opened a purse in front of a police lieutenant and a small baggie of cocaine fell out. Hilton claims neither the purse nor the cocaine was hers.

She's scheduled to appear before Las Vegas Justice of the Peace Joe Bonaventure on Oct. 27.

Jerry Hall's art collection on auction block

AP

This is a Monday June 9, 2008 file photo of American actress and former supermodel Jerry Hall as she stands next to her wedding dress, which she wore for her 1990 marriage to Rolling Stone front man Mick Jagger, during a photocall to launch the 'Passion For Fashion & Fine Textiles' auction, in London.

LONDON (AP)—Model Jerry Hall plans to auction some of her art collection next month, including a famous portrait by Lucian Freud that shows her nude when she was eight months pregnant, Sotheby's said Monday.

The auction will also include works by Andy Warhol, Damien Hirst, David Bailey and other prominent artists collected by Hall, ex-wife of Rolling Stones frontman Mick Jagger

The works will be sold on Oct. 15-16 as part of a larger contemporary art sale, Sotheby's spokesman Simon Warren said.

Sotheby's specialist Oliver Barker said the Lucian Freud portrait called "Eight Months Gone" is the centerpiece of the auction and is expected to fetch more than 300,000 pounds ($460,000).

"It's a wonderful painting," he said. "It was exhibited shortly after it was done at the Tate Gallery. He's always been interested in maternity. It's a very tender, loving painting."

He said Hall was willing to sell part of her collection because she has entered a new phase in her life.

"She's turning a new leaf," he said. "She's not afraid of change, she's happy to let them leave and have other art lovers enjoy them."

Hall said the unusually intimate painting came about after she and Freud were seated at a dinner together when she was eight months pregnant with her son Gabriel. The artist asked her if she would pose for him and said they had to begin immediately because she was so close to giving birth.

The collection also includes two other works by Freud, often acclaimed as one of the world's greatest living painters.

Hall has worked in the theater since her separation from Jagger in 1999. Several of her daughters have followed her into modeling, becoming prominent in England.

Angelina Jolie visits flood-hit Pakistan

ISLAMABAD (AP)—The United Nations says actress Angelina Jolie is visiting Pakistan to meet victims of the floods and highlight the need for international help.

Jolie was in the country Tuesday in her role as a "goodwill ambassador" for the U.N.'s refugee agency.

International relief agencies sometimes enlist celebrities to draw attention to their work and get more funds. The celebrities get to soften their image by being associated with good causes.

The U.N. gave no details of Jolie's itinerary.

AOL teaming up with Ellen DeGeneres online

NEW YORK (AP)—AOL is adding talk show host Ellen DeGeneres to its family of Web properties as it looks for ways to draw more people to its sites.

The company will begin sharing traffic, content and promotions with the website for "The Ellen DeGeneres Show," starting Tuesday. AOL sites such as KitchenDaily.com and Popeater will promote DeGeneres and provide links to her site, and vice versa.

No money is changing hands. The company that produces the TV show, Telepictures Productions, will still have control over what appears on the show's site and will sell the ad space next to it.

The deal is part of a strategy at AOL Inc. of hitching itself to established brands that complement its own original content. That, AOL hopes, will help it replace revenue from its shrinking dial-up Internet business with online advertising sales.

In a similar arrangement, AOL launched a new site this summer called Cambio with the Jonas Brothers, the famed Disney trio. The company says it expects more deals along these lines this fall.

Telepictures Productions is a unit of Time Warner Inc., which spun off AOL into a separate company last year.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Ex-ELO cellist killed in collision with hay bale

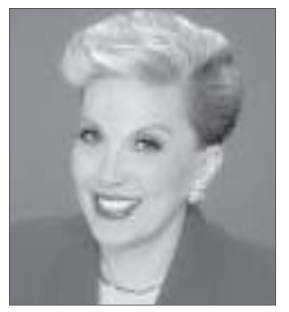
LONDON (AP)—Police in southwestern England say a former member of the Electric Light Orchestra was killed in a freak collision with a huge hay bale that rolled down a steep hill. The victim was identified on Monday as 62-year-old Mike Edwards, who played cello in the British rock band between 1972 and 1975. Sgt. Steve Walker of the Devon and Cornwall Police said Edwards was driving a van Friday when he collided with a 600-kilogram (1,300 pound) hay bale that had rolled down a hill to the road.

Former WWE wrestler faces drug, burglary charge

THONOTOSASSA, Fla. (AP)—Authorities say former WWE wrestler Jim "The Anvil" Neidhart has been arrested on drug charges in Florida. A Hillsborough County Sheriff's arrest report says the 55-year-old was arrested Sunday. The report says Neidhart was yelling outside a gas station yelling and was seen swallowing several pills. The report says he had Oxycontin pills and methadone that were prescribed to someone else. The sheriff's office says the person whose name was on the pills had reported that her medication was stolen from her home. The Tampa Tribune reports that Neidhart is being held on charges of possession and trafficking in a controlled substance and burglary. Jail records show bond had not been set for Neidhart as of Monday, and it was not immediately known if he had an attorney.

South Florida transplant finds too many implants

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: I am a 46-year-old man who has been divorced for six months. I recently moved down to South Florida for a new job. I am trying out the dating scene, but it has been difficult because I was married for 10 years.

Abby, it's hard to find decent, intelligent women down here. All the women I have dated so far have had breast implants. These not only look strange, but also feel uncomfortable during intimate moments. These women get a lot of looks from other men who gawk at their chests when we're together.

Would it be wrong of me to ask a woman, say within the first few dates, if her breasts are real? I don't care if they're big or small, I just want them real.

NEEDS A REAL WOMAN IN FLORIDA

DEAR NEEDS A REAL WOMAN: I do not recommend asking women you have just met if their breasts are "real." It could lead to a punch in the nose. I am recommending you visit some dating sites and, in the area where you are asked to list "interests," you state "intelligent women who have not had plastic surgery." I'm sure you'll find many. Of course, whether you have what THEY'RE looking for remains to be seen.

P.S. One final thought: If a boob job (forgive the vernacular) has been successful , it is difficult if not impossible to detect. I have this on good authority.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married for two months and together for two years. While we were dating, I learned that "Mario" cheated on me during our first year of dating. When I confronted him, he told me he didn't know why, but that he loved me with all his heart. A few months later, he asked me to marry him and I accepted.

A few days ago I discovered that not only did he cheat on me with several women, but also with several men. Mario says he didn't know how to tell me about his past because it was "disgusting" to him so he blocked it out of his mind.

Had he told me all this before we married, I would not have gone through with it. I am now totally confused about his sexuality. Mario says it was "just a phase"—it was in the past. He says he's a changed man and he wants to be with me. I don't know what to believe anymore because all he does is lie to me. Please help me.

BROKENHEARTED AND CONFUSED IN TEXAS

DEAR BROKENHEARTED: The first thing you need to do is get checked for STDs and HIV, because you may have been exposed to some of them during the "phase" your husband "blocked out of his mind." Whether Mario admits it or not, he is bisexual. Next, go online to www.StraightSpouse.org and you will find the help and support you are looking for.

Because you can't trust your husband to be honest, you will have to take care of yourself now. Please don't put it off because your emotional and physical health could depend upon it. On the plus side, be thankful there are not children involved. A man who always lies isn't just a poor husband; he would make an even worse role model.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: At sundown, Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, starts, the beginning of our time of solemn introspection. "Leshana tova tikatevu"—may each of you be inscribed in the Book of Life and have a good year.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

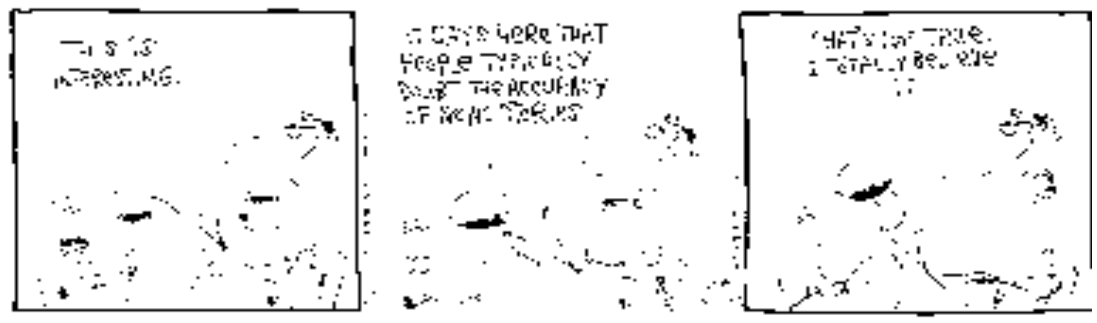
By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Hairless
5 Heidi's height
8 Dial tone?
12 Pennsylvania port
13 Meadow
14 Colloquial greeting
15 Genius
17 Month date
18 French composer Erik
19 Dolt's answer
21 Charlie Brown's expletive
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56 Its counterparts
57 Relaxation
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DOWN

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5 Nearly quit
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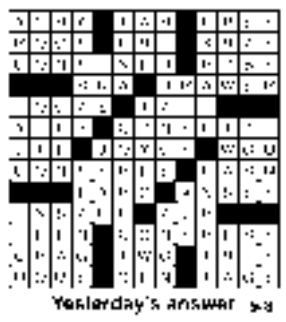
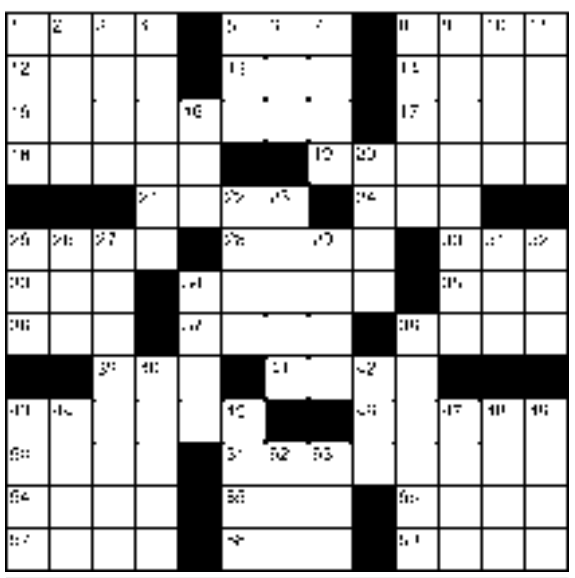
49 Gaelic
52 Wall climber
53 Ba... bearing item

Solution time: 21 mins.



Yesterday's answer



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5959! 99¢ a minute. Touch-tone only phones. ©Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved. King Features Service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jonathan Taylor Thomas, 29; Pink, 31; David Arquette, 39; Neko Case, 40

Happy Birthday: Learn from your mistakes and you will prosper. You can stabilize your financial situation. Change is apparent in both personal and professional partnerships. A unique approach to love and relationships will bring the best results and hold your partner's interest. Your numbers are 4, 6, 15, 21, 26, 38, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You've got more going for you than you realize. Stop undermining yourself and start taking action. It's not like you to sit back, so take the initiative and start inspiring others. You can make a difference. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Play to win and don't leave any stone unturned. A romantic plan will lead to a stable personal life. Practical application, coupled with a little spontaneity, will bring the best results. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't let things get to you. Use your energy to harness your skills and produce something that will benefit you or the organizations with which you are concerned. Don't give in to ultimatums. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Take note of what friends, neighbors or relatives are doing but don't join in if you aren't interested. You have plenty to accomplish on your own. An interest in a different lifestyle or culture will help you better understand yourself. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Someone from your past may remind you of something you wanted to be or do professionally. Getting together with an old friend will bring you back to a place of comfort. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): If you follow your heart and push for what you want, you will be successful. Changes at home are long overdue but it's never too late to instigate what you want. Rely on your strength and courage to help you stick to your game plan. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Before you jump into something, do your research. A change at work or with regard to someone dependent on you will leave you in an awkward position. You may have to make a decision that will influence someone else's life. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Be upfront and forceful in your approach to getting things done your way. The help you offer others will bring paybacks that are well worth your while. Changes at home will add to your creativity and your ability to get ahead. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): There are lots of opportunities but they won't drop in your lap. A lack of honest communication or avoiding emotional issues will come back to haunt you. Make the changes required at home. ✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): It's up to you to make proposals and set up meetings that highlight your talent and position. Love may take an interesting turn

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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that will open your eyes to greater possibilities. A commitment made can be revoked if you no longer feel the same way. Follow your heart. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You'll be criticized for your lack of accomplishments if you don't take what you have experienced and put it to good use. You have to recognize the mistakes you've made in the past if you plan to do something about them in the future. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Partnerships will play an important role in your life. Be open and receptive to what's being asked of you if you want to come up with a workable solution. There is plenty to gain by compromising with someone willing to meet you halfway. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are practical, persistent, hard-working and patient. You strive for stability and security in personal and professional dealings.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4	6				7	1	
8			2		9			6
			6					5
			3					4
			8					2
		4					6	
	6					2		
3					5			
1	9	2	7		8	4	5	3

Friendly Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

1	5	9	2	8	7	4	6	3
6	8	7	3	4	5	9	1	2
4	2	3	6	9	1	5	7	8
8	9	4	1	7	2	3	5	6
3	1	6	8	5	9	2	4	7
2	7	5	4	6	3	8	9	1
9	6	2	5	1	8	7	3	4
7	3	1	9	2	4	6	8	5
5	4	8	7	3	6	1	2	9

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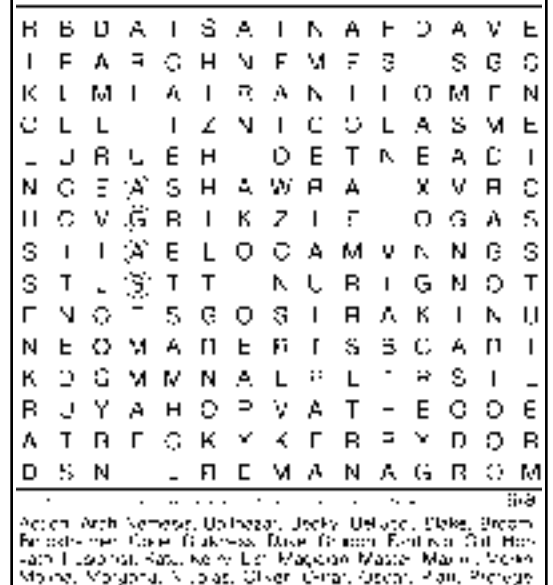
WONDERWORD

By DAVID DUELLET



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PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ANGELITA PRESAS TALADTAD, Petitioner, vs. ALBERTO TUMANON TALADTAD, Respondent.	FCD-DI Civil Action No. 09-0560R SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on filed with the Court, within 30 days after service of the Summons upon you, and deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner which is:

P.O. Box 1537, Rota, MP 96951

As soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It can be prepared for your by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 28th day of July, 2010.

CLERK OF COURT
BERNADITA A. SABLAN

/s/ Winniefred DLG. Mendiola, Dep. Clerk

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. ALEX L. EVANGELISTA, Defendant.	Civil Action No. 10-0183-CV AMENDED SUMMONS

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT ALEX L. EVANGELISTA

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitiled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the complaint of the plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon **Robert Tenorio Torres**, attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at **Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950**; and in case of failure to do so, judgement will be rendered against you according to the demand of the COMPLAINT, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So **ORDERED** this 11th day of August, 2010.

/s/ Clerk of Court

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MEETING NOTICE

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a Regular Board Meeting will be held on Friday, September 10, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at the MVA Conference Room, San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

I Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes – August 15, 2010

II Public Comments

III Committee Reports
1. Finance
2. Personnel
3. Ad Hoc Reports

IV Old Business

V New Business
1. Action on Finance Committee Report

VI Executive Session
1. RIF

VII Adjournment

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Acting Chair, MVA Board of Directors

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• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

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Classified Ads

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Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Find today's solution in this section

Wozniacki wallops 2006 champ Sharapova

NEW YORK (AP)—Grit was not going to be enough to get Maria Sharapova through this one.

Not with nine double-faults, including three in a row.

Not with a total of 36 unforced errors.

And certainly not with No. 1-seeded Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark across the net Monday in the fourth round of the U.S. Open, doing "what she does best," as Sharapova herself put it: getting to nearly every ball and hammering it back, stretching points on and on and on until her opponent misses the mark.

It added up to a 6-3, 6-4 victory for 2009 U.S. Open runner-up Wozniacki over Sharapova, who has failed to make it even as far as the quarterfinals at Flushing Meadows since winning the 2006 title.

"I felt like I was playing well out there," Wozniacki said, then made sure everyone understood a key concept by adding, "I made her do those errors."

Indeed, she did. Rare is the opponent who can trade powerful baseline groundstrokes with three-time Grand Slam champion Sharapova and figure out a way to put her on the defensive, but that's exactly what Wozniacki managed to do as early evening shadows crept across the blue court in Arthur Ashe Stadium.

"When she had the opportunity to step in," the 14th-seeded Sharapova said, her voice a barely audible monotone, "she took it and went for her shots."

It's the first victory for Wozniacki in three career meetings against Sharapova, but they hadn't met since 2008. In that time, the 20-year-old Wozniacki has grown as a player and built a huge supply of confidence, thanks to her Grand Slam final debut in New York and, most recently, her 18-1 record since Wimbledon.

"I've improved a lot, not only physically, but also I believe in myself more. I believe I can do it," said Wozniacki, who is ranked No. 2 but received the top seeding at the U.S. Open because No. 1 Serena Williams withdrew. "Also, I think I can mix up my game a little bit more."

Wozniacki has lost only 10 games so far; no one has conceded fewer en route to the U.S. Open quarterfinals since 1999. But here is what might be the most remarkable statistic of all: After making only 10 unforced errors against Sharapova, Wozniacki has made 40 in four matches, and her opponents have made 123.

"Obviously," Sharapova said, "she's at the top of her game."

Wozniacki carries a 12-match winning streak into her quarterfinal against 45th-ranked Dominika Cibulkova, who eliminated 2004 U.S. Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova 7-5, 7-6 (4).

The 5-foot-3 Cibulkova, a semifinalist at the 2009 French Open, was treated for a left leg problem between sets but still managed to scurry around, covering ground, to improve to 2-8 against top-15 players this season—with both victories against the 11th-seeded Kuznetsova, who double-faulted 10 times Monday.

Asked to assess Wozniacki, Cibulkova said admiringly: "She's really consistent, and she can keep the level that she's playing the whole match."

Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark celebrates after beating Maria Sharapova of Russia 6-3, 6-4 in the fourth round of play at the U.S. Open tennis tournament in New York, Monday, Sept. 6, 2010.

AP

The other quarterfinal on that side of the draw will be No. 31 Kaia Kanepi of Estonia against No. 7 Vera Zvonareva, who overwhelmed 38th-ranked Andrea Petkovic of Germany 6-1, 6-2 Monday night. Zvonareva, the runner-up at Wimbledon in July, reached the U.S. Open quarterfinals for the first time.

Earlier, Kanepi did the same by coming back to defeat 2009 U.S. Open semifinalist Yanina Wickmayer of Belgium 0-6, 7-6 (2), 6-1.

After getting off to a terrible start against the 15th-seeded Wickmayer, Kanepi turned the match around completely, then explained of her play down the stretch, "I was, like, in the zone or something."

Third-seeded Novak Djokovic might have said the same about his own play Monday, when he reached the men's quarterfinals at the U.S. Open for the fourth consecutive year by outclassing No. 19 Mardy Fish 6-3, 6-4, 6-1. Fish's exit leaves one U.S. man in the tournament, No. 20 Sam Querrey, who is in fourth-round action Tuesday against No. 25 Stanislas Wawrinka of Switzerland.

Serbia's Djokovic, the 2007 U.S. Open runner-up and 2008 Australian Open champion, next faces No. 17 Gael Monfils, a 6-4, 7-5, 7-5 winner over Richard Gasquet in an all-French matchup.

Another quarterfinal will pit five-time U.S. Open champion Roger Federer against No. 5 Robin Soderling, a two-time French Open finalist whose upset of Federer in that round at Paris this year ended his record streak of reaching the semifinals at 23 consecutive Grand Slam tournaments.

Federer reached the quarterfinals at a 26th major in a row by beating No. 13 Jurgen Melzer of Austria 6-3, 7-6 (4), 6-3 in Monday night's last match.

Sweden's Soderling hit 15 aces and did not face a single break point after the first set of his 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-3 win against No. 21 Albert Montanes of Spain.

Sharapova accumulated eight break points against Wozniacki, but converted only one.

"That's pretty bad, to say the least," Sharapova acknowledged.

Still, considered one of the toughest competitors on the women's tour, Sharapova rarely departs quietly, and she ratcheted up her trademark, high-octave shrieks right along with her skilled shotmaking Monday.

"I knew that she wasn't going to go away," Wozniacki said. "I knew she was going to hang in there and keep fighting till the end."

Sharapova saved Wozniacki's first match point with a gutsy volley winner while serving at 5-3 in the second set. That was part of some strong net play: Sharapova won 16 of 18 points when she pushed forward, but that efficiency would not suffice.

Sharapova delivered 12 of the match's first 15 winners. But she also was responsible for 12 of the first 15 unforced errors.

When Wozniacki served for the first set, Sharapova held a break point at 30-40, and they played a 24-stroke point that ended with Sharapova pushing a backhand long. Later, on Wozniacki's third set point, there came a 26-stroke exchange that concluded with—yes, that's right—another errant backhand from Sharapova.

"That's great tennis, when there's good rallies. I think it's good for the crowd, as well," Wozniacki said. "It just feels great when you feel like you're hitting the ball right—it's in the middle of your racket. The ball does whatever you want it to do."

US beats Angola, reaches quarters at worlds

ISTANBUL (AP)—Chauncey Billups scored 19 points, Kevin Durant had 17, and the United States powered into the quarterfinals of the world championship with a 121-66 victory over Angola on Monday.

With Durant scoring 17 and Billups 16 in the first half, the Americans saved their most impressive performance in Istanbul for the knockout round, overwhelming the Angolans from the start after a couple of lackluster performances to close the group stage.

The Americans forced turnovers that led to easy baskets in transition, and when forced into the halfcourt, shot 18 of 38 from 3-point range, one off the team record for 3s in a world championship game.

Eric Gordon and Rudy Gay also scored 17 for the Americans, who will face either Russia or New Zealand on Thursday. Gordon was 5 of 6 behind the arc.

Joaquim Gomes scored 21 for Angola, which finished fourth in Group A. The Angolans advanced to the elimination round on a tiebreaker by virtue of their overtime victory over Germany, but had lost by 50 to Serbia, and 21 apiece to Argentina and Australia.

They were no match for the Americans, who had won the teams' four meetings in the Olympics, starting with a 116-48 romp in the Dream Team's debut in Barcelona in 1992, straight through to a 97-76 victory in Beijing two years ago.

This quickly became one of those no-contests.

The Americans lacked some focus against Iran and Tunisia in their last two games, knowing victory was certain and not wanting to embarrass opponents or get any of their own players hurt.

But they expected to be sharper after a couple of days of practice, knowing they would press, substitute frequently, and raise their overall level of play with the games finally becoming important.

The United States won the opening tip for the first time in Istanbul and scored the first five points. Billups and Durant nailed consecutive 3-pointers to cap a 10-0 spurt and make it 22-7, and the Americans led 33-13 after one.

Billups is playing out of his normal NBA position as a shooting guard, and he made only 4 of 19 3-point attempts in preliminary play. United States coach Mike Krzyzewski was asked last week if he would consider a lineup change, and he said he would look at it.

The lineup stayed the same, but Billups looked much different.

The lead ballooned to 29 late in the second quarter. Durant shot 7 of 10 in the half and Billups was 4 of 6, all from behind the arc, and Durant's 3-pointer with 7 seconds left sent the Americans to the half with a 65-33 advantage.

Derrick Rose made two straight 3-pointers and Billups added another to start the U.S. scoring in the third quarter, and the lead grew to 37 late in the period. The Americans were 6 of 9 behind the arc in the period, which ended with them leading 91-56.

Felizardo Ambrosio finished with 12 points and Roberto Fortes 11 for Angola.

Russia 78, New Zealand 56

In Istanbul, Russia reached the quarterfinals of basketball's world championships, beating New Zealand behind Andrey Vorontsevich's 18 points and 11 rebounds. The Russians next play the United States.

Timofey Mozgov, Russia's 7-foot-1 center who recently signed for the New York Knicks, added 16 points and seven rebounds. Russia outrebounded New Zealand 41-25 and had five blocks to the Kiwis' one.

Kirk Penney led New Zealand with 21 points.

Russia used a 13-0 run to jump ahead 29-21 in the second quarter. In the second half, a frontline led by Vorontsevich overpowered a much smaller New Zealand.

Hoffman wins Deutsche Bank; Tiger stays at No. 1

NORTON, Mass. (AP)—Charley Hoffman couldn't count all the perks that came with winning the Deutsche Bank Championship, just like he lost track of the 11 birdies he made in a Labor Day masterpiece.

He moved up 57 spots to No. 2 in the FedEx Cup standings, giving him a shot at the $10 million bonus.

He gets to play all four majors, after not getting into any of them this year. That includes a trip down Magnolia Lane at Augusta National to compete in his first Masters.

And that might not be all.

"The best perk, hopefully, will be a Ryder Cup berth," Hoffman said after closing with a 9-under 62, the best finish by a winner at the TPC Boston since the tournament began in 2003. "Obviously, I wasn't in contention, but I hope I am now. It would be an honor to play, and I think I can play well."

Tiger Woods shot a 69 and keeps his No. 1 ranking for the 274th week in a row, with an assist from Phil Mickelson, who imploded on the back nine with a triple bogey and double bogey to shoot 76.

Woods is expected to be a Ryder Cup pick, along with Zach Johnson and Stewart Cink. No one stands out for the fourth selection.

Hoffman wasn't on U.S. captain Corey Pavin's list of players to call Monday night, and that might not change. Even if his name is not called when Pavin announces his four selections Tuesday morning in New York, the Hoff isn't about to lose any sleep.

"You're not going to take this one away from me," he said.

Hoffman stole it from everyone else.

Starting the final round four shots behind Jason Day, he erased the deficit with four straight birdies early in his round. Then came a mixture of good breaks and great shots, and a midas touch with the putter for the California kid with blond locks flowing under his cap.

He thought his 4-iron was short and headed for the bunker on No. 11 when it barely cleared, tumbled through the rough and settled 3 feet away. From the front bunker on the 13th, trying to get it close on the firm greens, he holed it for an unlikely birdie.

Once he realized he was in the lead, he poured it on with three more birdies over the final four holes for a five-shot victory over Day (71), Geoff Ogilvy (66) and Luke Donald (69).

Not bad for a guy who was just hoping to stay in the top 70 and advance to the third round of the FedEx Cup playoffs.

"The playoffs, that's what you try to do," Hoffman said. "I wasn't even close to anything for the most part starting the playoffs. Played decent last week, and just got it going this week."

Did he ever. Hoffman finished at 22-under 262 to tie the tournament record first set by Vijay Singh in 2008.

"I had the best seat in the house to watch that," Ogilvy said. "He hit great shots all day. He putted really well and as soon as he got himself in trouble he'd go and hole a bunker shot or something like that. So it was a pretty class act and he never looked like doing anything but winning after about three holes."

It was the second victory of Hoffman's career, and will put him just outside the top 50 in the world.

Day was wild off the tee early, then struggled with his putter coming in. Donald, who also had a share of the lead early, remained winless on the PGA Tour since 2006.

The disappointment was Mickelson, with his best chance at replacing Woods atop the world ranking. He started five shots out of the lead, needing only a fourth-place finish to be No. 1. Mickelson was in range until twice hitting into the hazard on the 10th hole for a triple bogey, sending him to a 41 on the back nine.

A month ago, Mickelson was four shots out of the lead at Firestone and closed with a 78.

"It was a frustrating back nine for me," Mickelson said. "I got off to a poor start. I enjoyed the tournament, I enjoyed the chance I had heading into today, and it was fun to go out there."

It wasn't much fun for a few players who failed to finish among the top 70 to advance to the BMW Championship, which starts Wedneseday at Cog Hill. Steve Marino shot a 76 and John Rollins had a 79 to fall out of the top 70.

The heartbreak beloned to Kris Blanks, who closed with a 70 and appeared to narrowly make the field in Chicago until Charlie Wi birdied the last hole to bump him down to No. 71. The final spot went to Scott Verplank, who withdrew Saturday with a wrist injury.

Upon learning he was No. 70, Verplank planned a cortisone shot Monday night with hopes of playing.

Andres Romero, who started these playoffs at No. 115 and only got to the TPC Boston with a 40-foot birdie putt on the final hole last week, shot a 72 and narrowly made it at No. 68. The surprise was Tom Gillis, who was at No. 92 until a 65-65 weekend gave him a tie for fifth and moved him to No. 48.

Hoffman not only is headed to Chicago, he's starting to set some pretty big goals - about 10 million of them.

"That wasn't anything I was thinking about until this afternoon," Hoffman said of the big bonus for winning the FedEx Cup. "I wasn't really in the race. I guess that's why this format is pretty unique. You can come out of nowhere."

That's exactly what Hoffman did Monday.

◄ Charley Hoffman raises the trophy for winning the Deutsche Bank Championship golf tournament at TPC Boston, in Norton, Mass., Monday, Sept. 6, 2010. AP

Pierzynski singles in 10th for White Sox row

DETROIT (AP)—A.J. Pierzynski hit a go-ahead single in the 10th inning and finished with three RBIs as the Chicago White Sox beat the Detroit Tigers 5-4 Monday for their seventh straight win.

Chris Sale (1-1) earned his first major league victory, finishing with 2 2-3 innings of scoreless relief. Jose Valverde (2-4) took the loss.

Manny Ramirez led off the Chicago 10th with a single and went to second when left fielder Ryan Raburn stumbled and made an error. Pinch-runner Alejandro De Aza took third on a single by pinch-hitter Alex Rios, and Pierzynski looped an RBI single.

Twins 5, Royals 4

At Minneapolis, Jason Kubel hit a go-ahead homer and Jim Thome launched his 585th career home run moments later, powering Minnesota past Kansas City.

The fifth-inning shots by Kubel and Thome kept the Twins 3Ω games ahead of Chicago in the AL Central.

Orioles 4, Yankees 3

At New York, Brian Matusz won his fourth straight start and Brian Roberts hit a go-ahead single in the seventh inning off struggling A.J. Burnett to lead Baltimore over New York.

Alex Rodriguez homered and drove in two runs to reach 100 RBIs for the 13th straight season and record 14th time overall. He surpassed Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and Jimmie Foxx, who each reached 100 RBIs 13 times.

Red Sox 12, Rays 5

At Boston, Ryan Kalish hit a grand slam, David Ortiz had a two-run shot and Jon Lester pitched six solid innings to lead Boston over Tampa Bay, preventing the Rays from climbing closer in the AL East race.

The Rays lost their third straight and remained 2 1/2 games behind the first-place Yankees. Boston moved within 6 1/2 games of Tampa Bay in the wild-card standings.

Blue Jays 7, Rangers 2

At Toronto, Vernon Wells hit a three-run homer and Aaron Hill had a two-run shot as Toronto handed Texas its seventh loss in nine games.

Yunel Escobar added a solo drive for Toronto, which leads the majors with 211 homers.

Tommy Hunter (12-3) struggled early as the Rangers lost their fourth straight. Texas leads the AL West by seven games over Oakland.

Athletics 6, Mariners 2

At Oakland, California, Coco Crisp and Matt Carson each hit solo home runs to back Brett Anderson as Oakland beat Seattle.

Anderson (4-6) allowed four hits in a season-high 7 2-3 innings and left to a standing ovation. He ended a four-game losing streak that matched the longest of his career.

Indians 3, Angels 2

At Anaheim, California, Choo Shin-soo drove home Michael Brantley with a tiebreaking single in the ninth inning as Cleveland rallied to beat Los Angeles.

Brantley's two-out double off Angels closer Fernando Rodney (4-2) started the final surge for the last-place Indians, who have won three of five on a West Coast road trip.

Pirates 3, Braves 1

At Pittsburgh, Neil Walker hit a two-run homer and Brian Burres limited Atlanta to one run over six innings in his first start in more than three months as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the slumping Braves.

Despite losing its fourth in five games, Atlanta was assured of remaining in first place in the National League East for at least another day when Florida beat Philadelphia in the first game of a day-night doubleheader.

Padres 4, Dodgers 2

At San Diego, Nick Hundley homered and drove in two runs and Tim Stauffer filled in for ailing ace Mat Latos as the NL West-leading San Diego Padres snapped their 10-game losing streak with a win over the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Padres kept their one-game division lead over the San Francisco Giants, who won at Arizona.

Marlins 7, Phillies 1, 1st game
Phillies 7, Marlins 4, 2nd game

At Philadelphia, Roy Oswalt pitched seven effective innings, helping Philadelphia beat Florida to split their day-night doubleheader.

Placido Polanco had a double, triple and two RBIs and Chase Utley also drove in a pair as the Phillies moved within a half-game of NL East-leading Atlanta.

In the opener, Adalberto Mendez pitched one-hit ball for six scoreless innings before injuring himself in his major league debut.

Oswalt (11-13) allowed four runs and six hits, striking out seven. The three-time All-Star is 5-1 since joining the Phillies in a trade with Houston on July 29. Philadelphia is 7-1 in his starts.

Rockies 10, Reds 5

At Denver, Ubaldo Jimenez won his club-record 18th game despite a wild performance as Colorado rallied from a four-run deficit to beat Cincinnati.

Even though he leads the NL in victories, Jimenez (18-6) hadn't won since Aug. 4. He snapped his four-game losing streak while struggling through a 123-pitch effort.

Giants 2, Diamondbacks 0, 11 innings

At Phoenix, Nate Schierholtz hit a two-run triple in the 11th inning as San Francisco inched closer in the playoff race by beating Arizona.

Madison Bumgarner matched zeros with Diamondbacks starter Ian Kennedy into the eighth inning and the Giants pulled it out in the 11th when Schierholtz followed singles by Aubrey Huff and Buster Posey with his triple to center off Aaron Heilman (5-7).

Cardinals 8, Brewers 6

At Milwaukee, Yadier Molina's grand slam capped a six-run eighth inning as St. Louis overcame Corey Hart's two homers to beat Milwaukee.

It was 2-all in the eighth when an error by Brewers third baseman Casey McGehee on a hard grounder by Albert Pujols helped St. Louis break away. Matt Holliday singled home the go-ahead run.

Cubs 5, Astros 4

At Chicago, Geovany Soto hit a tie-breaking homer in the eighth inning as Chicago rallied from a four-run deficit to beat Houston.

Soto's drive off reliever Wilton Lopez (5-2) was his 17th of the season and it helped the Cubs to their fourth win in five games. Marlon Byrd had a two-run shot for Chicago.

Nationals 13, Mets 3

At Washington, rookie Danny Espinosa drove in six runs, hitting a grand slam, a solo homer and getting two other hits to help Washington rout New York for its third straight victory.

Espinosa, called up from Triple-A on Wednesday, has three homers in his last four games. Washington scored 13 unanswered runs to post its 60th win of the season, eclipsing the Nationals' total from both 2008 and 2009.

CWGA September tourney this Saturday

The CNMI Women's Golf Association will hold its September tournament this Saturday, Sept. 11, at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

Tee time for the ladies competition at the west course of the Kagman facility is 11:30am with tee off set an hour later at 12:30pm.

For more information about the September golf tournament of CWGA, call Noriko Togawa at 287-0027, Lou Kim at 483-5255, Terry Tudela at 483-1761, Lorraine Babauta at 287-0621, and Bennet Seman at 483-0126.

Established in March 2007, CWGA is a nonprofit organization founded to promote, encourage, and introduce women to the sport of golf in the CNMI.

The organization intends to accomplish the following: 1. Promote civic and community interest in golf; 2. Establish and encourage competition and good sportsmanship; 3. Promote and provide social functions of the members and their families; 4. Promote youth golf activities; and 5. To do any or all things necessary and proper to accomplish its purpose and intention.

CWGA also commits its members to abide by a set of values that will further enrich a golfer's performance, attitude, and conduct-adopted form the USA Junior Golf Association.

The set of values members of CWGA are committed to faithfully are as follows: perseverance; sportsmanship; respect; honesty; judgment; responsibility; reliance; courtesy; and sincerity.

For more information about the club's monthly tournaments, call Noriko Togawa at 287-0027, Lou Kim at 483-5255, Terry Tudela at 483-1761, Lorraine Babauta at 287-0621, and Bennet Seman at 483-0126. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

IT&E

From Page 28

IT&E to come back at the start of the third quarter.

IT&E took the lead for the first time, 55-54, on Darwin Barbo's layup, and then the team hung in there until the Ol'Aces forced a deadlock, 60-all, with less than five minutes left in the match.

As the Ol'Aces evened up the game, they shuffled their lineup on the floor with veterans Elias Rangamar, Peter Camacho, Taj Van Buren, and Junior Fernandez replacing the young ones and teaming up with Marvin Rabauliman, who was lone fourth-quarter starter left to finish the match.

The Ol'Aces had the same substitution pattern in the first three cantos with their young guns starting the period and the seasoned veterans coming off the bench to wrap up the quarter. However, this time the gambit backfired on the Ol'Aces, as their new combination failed to buy a basket for more than two minutes.

In contrast, IT&E's quintet went steady in the closing minutes of the fourth quarter, canning crucial free throws, timely layups, and a couple of defensive stops.

The Ol'Aces had one final chance to save their season when it regained possession and fell behind by only four points, 69-73, with 7.6 seconds left on the clock.

However, the Ol'Aces wasted that opportunity when Trevor Ogumoro lost the leather even without an IT&E player harassing him. Ogumoro was on top of the key after receiving the inbound pass from Taj Van Buren and dribbled toward the right wing, but the ball got stuck between his hips and hand on his turn and fell on the floor.

IT&E's Bernard Aquino was on top of the crucial error and picked up the loose ball. He then sprinted to their frontcourt for a layup with Ogumoro chasing him and blocking the shot. However, Ogumoro was too late the hero, as after the shot-block only 1.5 seconds was left in the match.

Aquino then inbounded the ball and passed it to Esdrelon, who drilled a short jumper at the buzzer to peg the final score.

Barbo top-scored for IT&E with 17 points, while Esdrelon and Brendo Talania added 13 and 12, respectively. IT&E also drew a solid game from Kirk Schuler, who logged 10 points and issued crucial assists in the home stretch, making up for his absence in IT&E's 75-89 loss to Hi-5.

Rabauliman was the lone double figure scorer for the Ol'Aces with 14.

Hoegaarden IT&E 75 – Barbo 17, Esdrelon 13, Talania 12, Schuler 11, Aquino 8, Berline 6 Capalad 5, Fernandez 2.

Bud Light Lime Ol'Aces 69 – Rabauliman 14, Ogumoro 9, Camacho 8, Aughenbaugh 8, Omar 6, Rangamar 6, Van Buren 6, Fernandez 4, Lisua 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-23, 32-37, 53-54, 75-69.

GABE

From Page 28

to help NMIVA and associated stakeholders with solidifying a master plan for volleyball development in the CNMI," NMIVA president Laurie Peterka said.

"We want to know how FIVB can help us with more trainings; trainings for our board, community partners, teachers, and students. We want them to help us identify and lay down a strategic plan that is tailored to our unique environment; something we can growth with," Peterka said.

The plan, Peterka added, should be long term and should stress to the youth to look at the bigger picture of the sport or for CNMI to eye participation in international tournaments in the future.

"We are not talking about this season or next season in a school or community league. We are talking about total commitment. It's a lot of commitment and there's no reason that we can't accomplish this if we all work together," the NMIVA head said.

White's trip to Rome is funded by FIVB and NMIVA is thankful for giving a small nation like the CNMI to participate in the Congress.

"We are so grateful to the FIVB for providing us the opportunity to participate in the FIVB World Congress. Without their financial support, we cannot afford to participate. FIVB provided us the with financial assistance opportunities as they did with several small national federations. We are so very lucky that NMIVA was among those chosen to receive these benefits," NMIVA secretary Mili Saiki said.

PACQUIAO

From Page 28

Mayweather, at times interacting with fans by phone on the video, claims Pacquiao "can't speak no English" and has "never seen a contract he didn't like." There are also suggestions that the Filipino sensation has used performance-enhancing drugs, assertions raised previously by the Mayweather camp that resulted in a defamation lawsuit that is still pending.

"It's a really cheap low blow, but again, consider where it came from," said Freddie Roach, Pacquiao's trainer. "We tried to fight him. He said no. He doesn't want to fight."

Roach said he hadn't seen the Mayweather video.

Mayweather's chief adviser, Leonard Ellerbe, did not return messages left by The Associated Press. His publicist, Kelly Swanson, said in an e-mail that she had seen the video but had not been in touch with Mayweather or Ellerbe and couldn't comment.

Fans have been calling for Mayweather to fight Pacquiao, but negotiations have repeatedly broken down for what could have been the richest fight in boxing history.

When a deal wasn't reached in January, Pacquiao instead fought Joshua Clottey, defeating him in March at Cowboys Stadium. When negotiations broke down again this summer, Pacquiao turned his attention to Margarito, whom he'll fight for a vacant junior middleweight title.

It is unclear when the Mayweather video was made, but it appeared online this week when Pacquiao and Margarito were in the midst of their promotional tour. After stops in Beverly Hills and New York, the media tour wrapped up Friday at Cowboys Stadium—in an end zone plaza instead of on the field, which was being prepared for a college football game.

When asked about the possibility of a Mayweather bout Friday, Pacquiao responded: "I'm not looking for that fight. I'm satisfied with what I've done in boxing already."

Pacquiao said he's only planning a couple of more fights before retiring, though he gave no indication of who the opponents might be. The seven-division champion said earlier this week that he would still face Mayweather if he accepted the fight.

Todd duBoef of promoter Top Rank said he had heard about the Mayweather video but "probably" didn't have any interest in seeing it. Mayweather used to be a Top Rank fighter.

DuBoef also said he doesn't want to hear Mayweather asking to fight Pacquiao, especially after his team denied that the second round of negotiations even took place this summer.

"It's sad," duBoef said. "You hope that people are a little more mature than things like that. ... We've tried this twice (to make the fight). We tried it twice and you denied there were negotiations. Enough of that."

DuBoef said that Pacquiao (51-3-2, 38 KOs) was ready to fight and not interested in waiting any longer on a bout with Mayweather, who is 41-0 after a unanimous decision in May over Shane Mosley. Mayweather took that fight after the Pacquiao deal fell through.

That was Mosley's first fight since beating Margarito in January 2009, and the last time that Margarito fought in the United States. He was suspended for one year because a plaster-like substance was found in Margarito's hand wraps before his bout against Mosley in Los Angeles.

Margarito (38-6, 27 KOs) was denied an application to fight in California and had another application tabled in Nevada before the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation last week approved his application. That cleared the way for another high-profile boxing match at Cowboys Stadium, the $1.2 billion showplace built by Cowboys owner Jerry Jones.

When Texas licensing executive director William Kuntz spoke Friday, he said Jones paved the way for major boxing events in Texas. While he didn't address Margarito's license issue, duBoef applauded the decision by Texas regulators.

"They did a terrific job. They did research, they didn't rush to judgment," duBoef said. "They didn't listen to hype, they didn't listen to hyperbole."

PACIFIC

From Page 28

lowed to pay on installment basis for five months. Each delegate must pay $360 per month, starting this December until April next year.

Financial assistance from NMASA or any other group has yet to be discussed, as NMASA still need to get confirmation from sports federations if they will be sending teams/athletes to the Games.

The Pacific Games will run from Aug. 27 to Sept. 10 with New Caledonia's capital serving as the main hub for the event. Nine other neighboring areas—Mont-Dore, Dumbea, Paita, La Foa, Kone, Koumac, Poindimie, Ouvea, and Lifou—will also host other competitions.

Next year's Pacific Games will offer 28 sports with 12 of them compulsory—athletics, basketball, beach and indoor volleyball, soccer, golf, weightlifting, swimming, rugby 7's, tennis, table tennis, and canoe racing. Completing the list are badminton, baseball, boxing, cricket, powerlifting, handball, judo, karate, squash, surfing, taekwondo, shooting, archery, sailing, and triathlon.

The 15-day competition will feature athletes from 22 nations: CNMI, Fiji, Guam, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, New Caledonia, French Polynesia, Papua New Guinea, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, American Samoa, Nauru, Niue, Norfolk, Palau, Samoa, Tokelau, Tuvalu, Tonga, Vanuatu, Wallis and Futuna.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	86	52	.623	_
Tampa Bay	83	54	.606	2Ω
Boston	77	61	.558	9
Toronto	71	66	.518	14 1/2
Baltimore	52	86	.377	34

Central Division

Minnesota	81	57	.587	_
Chicago	77	60	.562	3 1/2
Detroit	68	70	.493	13
Kansas City	57	80	.416	23 1/2
Cleveland	56	82	.406	25

West Division

Texas	75	62	.547	_
Oakland	68	69	.496	7
Los Angeles	66	72	.478	9 1/2
Seattle	54	84	.391	21 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	79	59	.572	_
Philadelphia	79	60	.568	1/2
Florida	70	67	.511	8 1/2
New York	67	71	.486	12
Washington	60	78	.435	19

Central Division

Cincinnati	79	58	.577	_
St. Louis	72	63	.533	6
Houston	64	73	.467	15
Milwaukee	63	74	.460	16
Chicago	60	78	.435	19
1/2				
Pittsburgh	46	91	.336	33

West Division

San Diego	77	59	.566	_
San Francisco	77	61	.558	1
Colorado	73	64	.533	4
1/2				
Los Angeles	69	69	.500	9
Arizona	56	82	.406	22

Yesterday's Games

Florida 7, Philadelphia 1, 1st game
Philadelphia 7, Florida 4, 2nd game
Washington 13, N.Y. Mets 3
Pittsburgh 3, Atlanta 1
St. Louis 8, Milwaukee 6
Chicago Cubs 5, Houston 4
Colorado 10, Cincinnati 5
San Francisco 2, Arizona 0, 11 innings
San Diego 4, L.A. Dodgers 2
Baltimore 4, N.Y. Yankees 3
Chicago White Sox 5, Detroit 4, 10 innings
Toronto 7, Texas 2
Minnesota 5, Kansas City 4
Oakland 6, Seattle 2
Boston 12, Tampa Bay 5
Cleveland 3, L.A. Angels 2

DEUTSCHE BANK SCORES

NORTON, Massachusetts (AP) — Final scores Monday at the Deutsche Bank, a $7.5 million tournament at the par-71, 7,214-yard course at the TPC Boston:

FINAL ROUND

Charley Hoffman	64-67-69-62—262
Geoff Ogilvy	64-72-65-66—267
Luke Donald	65-67-66-69—267
Jason Day	63-67-66-71—267
Tom Gillis	67-71-65-65—268
Adam Scott	67-69-65-67—268
Brandt Snedeker	66-64-67-71—268
John Senden	66-68-69-67—270
Steve Stricker	65-68-67-71—271
D.J. Trahan	64-69-69-70—272
Michael Sim	68-66-72-68—274
Tiger Woods	72-65-69-68—274
J.B. Holmes	66-71-69-68—274
Ryan Palmer	64-72-69-69—274
Matt Kuchar	66-65-72-71—274
Vijay Singh	66-68-69-71—274
Andres Romero	68-66-68-72—274
Jason Dufner	66-73-68-68—275
Stewart Cink	68-66-72-69—275
Angel Cabrera	69-68-69-69—275
Charlie Wi	68-66-67-74—275
Bill Haas	66-73-69-68—276
Kris Blanks	66-68-72-70—276
Brian Davis	64-73-69-70—276
Paul Casey	66-72-71-68—277
Martin Laird	66-69-74-68—277
Retief Goosen	67-69-71-70—277
Bo Van Pelt	70-70-68-69—277
Phil Mickelson	69-65-67-76—277
Ernie Els	70-67-70-71—278
Zach Johnson	63-71-71-73—278
Justin Leonard	69-66-67-76—278
Nick Watney	69-72-70-68—279
Matt Jones	65-70-73-71—279
Kevin Na	69-67-70-73—279
Hunter Mahan	64-70-71-74—279
Bubba Watson	67-71-73-69—280
Jim Furyk	66-73-71-70—280
Fredrik Jacobson	65-76-69-70—280
Rory McIlroy	64-76-69-71—280
Jason Bohn	67-74-72-68—281
Greg Chalmers	68-72-72-69—281
Rickie Fowler	67-70-74-70—281
Steve Marino	65-69-71-76—281
Robert Allenby	69-70-75-68—282
Josh Teater	68-70-75-69—282
David Toms	67-71-75-69—282
Ian Poulter	67-73-73-69—282
Brendon de Jonge	67-72-73-70—282
Kevin Streelman	69-70-73-70—282
K.J. Choi	69-71-72-70—282
Tim Clark	69-72-71-70—282
Stephen Ames	67-68-75-72—282
Tim Petrovic	68-71-71-72—282
Y.E. Yang	67-70-68-77—282
John Rollins	66-70-67-79—282
Ricky Barnes	68-71-74-70—283
Stuart Appleby	70-71-72-70—283
Ryuji Imada	67-71-73-72—283
Dustin Johnson	73-68-69-73—283
Marc Leishman	71-68-77-68—284
Davis Love III	71-69-71-73—284
Camilo Villegas	67-72-71-74—284
Blake Adams	70-68-70-76—284
Heath Slocum	68-72-74-71—285
Lucas Glover	70-68-72-75—285
Charles Howell III	68-70-77-71—286
Ryan Moore	64-76-70-76—286
Aaron Baddeley	71-70-75-71—287
Paul Goydos	68-73-75-74—290
Shaun Michee	68-71-75-77—291

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PIC Point Break tourney this weekend

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Pacific Islands Club will be holding the 2010 International PIC Point Break Open this weekend pitting local riders against Koreans and Japanese.

"We are expecting the arrival of competitors from Korea and Japan so this will be an exciting event," PIC said in a press statement.

The tournament, which will take place at PIC's point break flowrider facility, will have competitions in five divisions; men's and women's open, keikis (U17 age group), grommet (U11), and stand up open.

The men's and women's open divisions will have a double-elimination format. Riders will first join the qualifying round this Friday and will be given two chances to show their moves and impress the panel of judges. Each rider is given a minute to perform or complete his/her routine.

Judges will give points to riders based on difficulty, variety, and execution of the moves, and overall impression. Scores range from 1 to 10 with and there will be five judges. For the final scoring, the highest and lowest scores will be dropped and the remaining three will be tallied to get the average score.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
A participant in last year's point break shows his move. Action in the Pacific Islands Club's flowrider will return this weekend with Korean and Japanese riders challenging local bets.

After the qualifying round, which will begin at 5pm, riders will be ranked and only 12 will advance to the playoffs. In the playoffs, there will be three rounds.

The first round will have three-person heats. The highest scoring rider of the heat in the first round will then advance to Round 3. The other two riders will be seeded into Round 2 based on their original ranking. The winner of the Round 2 heats will then march to Round 3, which will be a single-elimination affair.

For each round, riders will be given one minute to complete their routines. In the finals, participants will have two 90-second rides.

In the keikis, grommet, and stand up divisions, riders will compete in three rounds with two one-minute rides per round. The same scoring system will be implemented.

Competitions in the keikis, grommet, and stand up divisions will start this Saturday at 12pm, while awards banquet will take place at 6:30pm.

Registration fees for the women's and men's open, stand up, and U17 division is $35 each. For the U11 division, entrance fee is only $25, while a rider who is already entered in one event, but is wishing to compete in another division must pay an additional entry fee of $10.

Cash prizes and gifts await winners of the various divisions. Deadline for submission of application and waiver forms and entry fees are set for Sept. 10 at 5pm.

For more information, contact PIC at 237-5148 or email at seaexec@pic-saipan.com.

Pacesetter Umi Shooters win on the road

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Pacesetter Jonny's Umi Shooters pose after their 10-5 road win over Dutty Gunz at VFW Post 3457 last Thursday in the B Flame Tree Division of the Saipan Electronic Darts Association.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipntribune.com
REPORTER

Jonny's Umi Shooters continued to be tough on the road, as the pacesetter of the B Flame Tree Division of the Saipan Electronic Darts Association took out Dutty Gunz, 10-5, at VFW Post 3457.

The victory gave Umi Shooters a league-leading 50-25 win-loss in the division, while four other teams are fighting for the second spot.The Wild Shooters (43-32) is currently in second with Assashunz (42-33) only a game behind. IDK-2 (41-34) is right there with Gaiana B (38-37) in their rearview mirror.

Umi Shooters 10, Dutty Gunz 5

Christopher Bernardo, Nelson Decena, Alejandro Prado, and Alfred Muna of the visiting Umi Shooters swept all four Singles 301 Double In/Double Out games to shoot their team ahead. Both teams won a game of Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket and a Partners 501 Double/In Double Out match before Decena, Bernardo, Prado, and Muna swept all four Singles Regular Cricket matches. Muna's win sealed the automatic victory for the Umi Shooters before the Dutty Gunz won both Partners Baseball games and the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match.

Gaiana B 8, Wild Shooters 7

Both teams won a pair of Singles 301 Double in/Double Out matches before the home team Wild Shooters swept both Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket matches for the lead. Then after both teams won a game of Partners 501 Double In/Double Out and a pair of Singles Regular Cricket matches, Gaiana B came back to tie the game by winning both Partners Baseball games. In the final Team 1001 Double/In Double Out match, Felix Travilla, Steve Chae, Roxanne Wakit, and Dae Geon Sablan of Gaiana B pulled off the sweet upset on the road.

IDK-2 8, Get Sum 7

Don Brennan, Lucio Aldan, and Buddy Igitol of home team Get Sum won three of the four Singles Double In/Double Out games to give their team an early lead, but after both teams won a Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket match and a game of Partners 510 Double in/Double Out, IDK-2's Ray San Nicolas, John San Nicolas, Jacob Lizama and Jaycee Rediulul swept all four Singles Regular Cricket matches. IDK-2 went on to clinch the automatic win after taking the first Partners Baseball game. Get Sum won the second baseball game and the final Team 1001 Team Double in/Double Out match.

Assashunz 10, Onagas! 5

The visiting Assashunz's Dean Borja, Sylvester Javier, and Donovan P. Castro won three of the four Singles 301 Double In/Double Out games to put their team out in front. Both teams won a game of Wild and Crazy Cricket, but the Assashunz swept both Partners 501 Double In/Double Out matches. Then Assashunz's Franklin C. Palacios and Nathan Chargualaf won two of the four Singles Regular Cricket matches; Chargualaf's win gave his team the automatic nod. Both teams took a game of Partners Baseball before the Assashunz won the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match.

Salbahe Brothers' mean streak continues

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

An 11-4 win against Sande's Top Shooters at home Thursday helped Buddies' Salbahe Brothers continue its dominance in the B Fanihi Division of the Saipan Electronic Darts Association.

The victory improved Salbahe Brothers' win-loss slate to 51-24 followed by VFW Post 3457's No Fear (46-20), Buddies' Boyz B (43-23), and IT&E Kamote (41-34).

Jessie Teigita, meanwhile, scored a 120 in the High-In, while and Jojo Guilas had a 110 in the High-Out.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The Naked Fish Barracudas pose for a team photo after their B Fanihi game Thursday night in the Saipan Electronic Darts Association.

Salbahe Brothers 11, Top Shooters 4

Both teams won a pair of Singles 301 Double In/Double Out before the home team swept both Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket matches and both games of Partners 501 Double In/Double Out. Salbahe Brothers and Top Shooters then won a pair of Singles Regular Cricket matches before the former swept both games of Partners Baseball and the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out game. Notably, Salbahe Brother's Ernie Domingo won all five games in which he competed and coincidentally his singles cricket win fittingly secured the automatic win for the team.

Boyz B 8, No Fear 7

Both teams won a pair of Singles 301 Double In/Double Out before visiting Boyz B swept both Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket matches. Then each team won a game of Partners 501 Double In/Double Out before Jessie Teigita, Chris Selepeo, and Frances Magofna of No Fear tied the game by winning three of the four Singles Regular Cricket matches. Boyz B buckled down in the clutch and swept both Partners Baseball games for the impressive upset win on the road. No Fear finished strong and took the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match to help their cause in the division standings. Notably, Boyz B's Mario Abo won five out of the six matches in which he competed, the only game he lost was the final team game after his team already secured the automatic win on the scorecard.

Kamote's 10, Barracuda 5

Both teams won a pair of Singles 301 Double In/Double Out games before home team Kamote's swept both Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket matches. Then both teams won a Partners 501 Double In/Double Out match before Mark Cris Badal, Jerome F. Sembrano, and Kaysie Aquino of Kamote's won three of the four Singles Regular Cricket matches; Aquino's win sealed the automatic victory. Kamote's went on to sweep both Partners Baseball games, while the Barracudas took the Final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match.

Naughty Boyz 11, Sand Baggers 4

Both teams won a pair of Singles 301 Double In/Double out matches and a game of Partners Wild and Crazy Cricket. Then the home team Naughty Boyz swept both Partners 501 Double In/Double Out matches before team members, Justin Mizutani, John Cabrera, Jarvin Mendiola, and Ferdy Ngirmekur swept all four Singles Regular Cricket games; Mendiola's win clinched the automatic victory. Both teams won a game of Partners Baseball and the Top Shooters took the final Team 1001 Double In/Double Out match.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

IT&E eliminates Ol'Aces

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hoegaarden IT&E pushed the Bud Light Lime Ol'Aces to the exit door of the 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League after a 75-69 win in their playoff game Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ol'Aces were eliminated as they had already absorbed their second loss after three games in the playoffs. The Ol'Aces first bowed to Bacardi Mojito Hi-5 then won over the O'Doul's Runnin' Rebels to keep their bid for a return trip to the finals alive before losing a must-win match over IT&E.

IT&E is still in the thick of the fight for the second and last finals berth, following its six-point win over the Ol'Aces. IT&E will face Becks Sixsevenoh tonight with the winner meeting Hi-5 for the last finals seat and the right to face the CNMI Nationals in the championship game.

Ol'Aces had a good chance of advancing to the next round, but blew away a 13-point lead in the first half, 31-18, allowing

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Hoegaarden IT&E's Kirk Schuler, center, beats Bud Light Lime Ol'Aces' Ben Lisua, left, and Derrick Aughenbaugh in the battle for the loose ball during their playoff game in the Budweiser caging Monday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Pacquiao focuses on Margarito, not Mayweather rant

STEPHEN HAWKINS
AP SPORTS WRITER

BOXING

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Boxing champion Manny Pacquiao dismissed a derogatory online video posted by Floyd Mayweather Jr., calling it an "uneducated message" and choosing to instead focus on his upcoming fight with Antonio Margarito.

In the widely circulated video, Mayweather goes on an expletive-filled and sometimes racist rant against Pacquiao, the newly elected Congressman from the Philippines who faces Margarito on Nov. 13 at Cowboys Stadium near Dallas.

Mayweather said during the video, which appeared this week, that he's on vacation "for about a year" and would easily defeat Pacquiao after that.

"I just heard about that, but I didn't see the video," Pacquiao said Friday, at the final stop of a three-city tour to promote his fight. "But it's an uneducated message."

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AP
Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, center, poses for photos with boxers Manny Pacquiao, left, of the Philippines and Antonio Margarito of Mexico during a pre-fight news conference promoting their upcoming bout at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas, Friday, Sept. 3, 2010.

Gabe off to Rome for FIVB Congress

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

White

The CNMI will be represented in the FIVB World Congress after Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association vice president Gabriel White left for Rome yesterday morning to attend the biennial meeting.

The FIVB World Congress will be held at the Rome Marriott Park Hotel this Thursday and Friday with White joining representatives from more than 200 member federations of the world governing body of volleyball.

At the Congress, federations are expected to discuss issues with FIVB and Confederation officials, while FIVB is likely to update member nations on key developments within the organization and White is happy to have a chance to attend the important forum.

"I think it is our commitment to seeing volleyball develop further in the CNMI and creating the foundation for NMIVA as the national federation that allowed FIVB to consider the CNMI for this opportunity," White said.

"We have been working with FIVB's development department over the past two to three years, seeking guidance on the best path for building a solid foundation for volleyball programs here in the CNMI. I am anxious to meet as many people as I can. The focus on this World Congress is development, which is right in line with the objectives the NMIVA board has been working on, so we are looking forward to promising results. Attending the World Congress gives the CNMI a face. It gives us a chance to say 'Here we are, we are stepping up, please help us,'" he added.

White is bringing with him in Rome an agenda, which the NMIVA board created to capitalize on this rare opportunity.

"NMIVA's agenda for Rome focuses on national development guidance from FIVB and on identifying what types of grants the CNMI might qualify for with regards to overall federation, stakeholder, and program development. More specifically, NMIVA is looking at how to partner with FIVB's technical department to see what programs are available

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Pacific Games to cost $1.8K per athlete

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association has pegged the cost per delegate to the 2011 Pacific Games in Noumea, New Caledonia at $1,800.

NMASA vice president Jeff Race, on instruction from NMASA president Michael White, told those present at the group's monthly meeting last week that sports federations interested in sending athletes/coaches to the Pacific Games next year must start fund raising now to meet the financial requirement for the trip.

Race added NMASA had already arranged a payment scheme to help sports associations/athletes pay for the cost of their participation in next year's competition.

Athletes/officials will be al-

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MARK RABAGO
Pacific Games Council secretary general David Boyd, sitting right, protocol director Helen Court Wabete, sitting second right, and NC2011 president Pascale Bastien-Thiry, sitting third right, pose with NMASA members after holding a special briefing at the conference room of the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium in November 2008.